



Newsletter 3 Autumn Term 2023

Message from Mrs Lakey:

We are heading towards Christmas very quickly. The last few weeks of this term are hectic and full of fun activities and experiences. Please ask us if you have any questions.

Thursday 30th November the Christmas Wreath Workshop is back by popular demand. (Booking essential)

Monday 11th December, please could all library books be back in school for checking.

Tuesday 12th December, at 9.30, and **Wednesday 13th December**, at 5.00pm, we will be holding our Nativity play, The Grumpy Shepherd, in school. The 12th December performance will be a baby friendly, dress rehearsal and we would encourage you to bring any younger siblings to watch this performance. If your child is at After School club on Wednesdays we will keep them until the performance. Please give them a snack they can bring in to eat beforehand. If any costume is required, we will let you know.

Friday 15th December, Splash will be going to Robinsons in Alwick for a Christmas treat; to meet a very special visitor. If any Nursery children, who don't attend on a Friday, would like to join us, we will meet you at Robinsons. Please speak to us about timings.



On Monday 18th December, Y1 – Y6 will travel to Newcastle to watch the pantomime Aladdin, at the Exchange Theatre in North Shields. The children will not return until approximately 4.15pm. Updates to arrival time will be put on our Facebook page. This event has been subsidised by the P.T.A., reducing the ticket to a donation of £5.00, instead of the actual cost, including transport, which is over £20.00 per head. An electronic consent form will be sent prior to the event. Donations can be sent at any time.

Wednesday 20th December, Christmas lunch for the whole school. If your child usually brings a packed lunch from home and would like Christmas lunch, please let Kathy know. The cost is £2.50. Christmas jumpers, or a piece of tinsel, or a Santa/elf hat can be worn to school instead of uniform but as pupils will be walking to Church in the afternoon, long trousers and wellies will be needed.

Wednesday 20th December, Christmas Carol Service at St Maurice's Ellingham. The service will start at 1.45pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Thursday 21st December, Buffet party lunch. Children who bring a packed lunch from home will be included for no extra charge.

Thursday 21st December will be non-uniform. Please make sure the children still have clothes suitable for outdoor play.





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We have a new text method of paying any school lunches / swimming/ After School club etc. Please ask Kathy to calculate a bill and a text will be sent out on a Tuesday, with a secure link to pay your invoice. The link will last 24hours. Thank you to the parents who have been trialling this for us.

As we head toward Christmas, here are a few ways you can support the school with no outlay to yourselves:

Easy Fundraising

Follow the simple steps to register, <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/facesellingham/>

Make sure you click on the donation reminder toolbar. Having downloaded the tool bar when you visit a site that supports 'easyfundraising' a small reminder will pop up asking you if you want to link a purchase to the fundraising website. It's easy to use, it doesn't compromise your security and will earn money for the school with no effort on your part.



Over 2,700 well known retailers, including, John Lewis, eBay and Tesco will donate a small percentage of what you spend to FACES - Friends and Community of Ellingham School - to say thank you for shopping with them.

If you run a business, or know someone who works somewhere that orders internet goods, please encourage them to register and support our cause.

We also run a school lottery once a week and, although our numbers have dwindled, someone continues to win each week whilst also donating to our school.

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/ellingham-c-of-e-aided-first-school> Tickets are only £1.00 each and someone wins every Saturday. To the parents who win on a very regular basis and continue to donate the win back to school, thank you, you know who you are!



The clothes bank is proving successful and also donates a small percentage to school, whilst making sure your unwanted items are put to good use.,

Our plans for offering 2-year-old nursery provision for a Thursday and Friday after Christmas are in place. We have 2 places left, if you know anyone who is still interested, but not booked, ask them to speak to Kathy a.s.a.p.

We break up for Christmas at 3.15pm on **Thursday 21st December** and return on Monday 8th January 2024. Not all schools break up on the Thursday, so please take note of the date.

