

Spring 2024 Newsletter 1

We are delighted that we are now running our 2 year old provision, Wellies&Wonder@Ellingham, on a Thursday and Friday. The children attending have settled very quickly. We welcomed Mrs Ellie Friend to our staff, as our new Nursery Teaching Assistant. We have a few spaces left so if you know anyone who will be looking for 2 year old childcare in April, once the Government funding has started, please let them know. If you are a current parent, who will be requiring childcare in the future, please speak to Kathy and make sure you are on our list.



We continue to use our school PTA Facebook page as the quickest way to relay information to parents. We try to answer questions on the same day and have found it useful for reminders, or clarifying timings for homework or days for PE.

Newsletters will continue to be sent through PMX Parentmail. If anyone needs to speak to a teacher, or has any concerns, this can be dealt with quickly through Kathy (or via the teachers email, but this may be a slower response.) Mrs Lakey will also continue to post regular updates on our Facebook page so please remember to look out for them. The more you interact with our page the more likely you are to get the alerts in your feed. We also celebrate pupil achievements and events on X (formerly known as Twitter.)

If you want to contact the teachers directly, please use their email addresses, not Facebook messenger.

Splash

karen.swinbank@ellingham.northumberland.sch.uk

Space Base

chloe.baines@ellingham.northumberland.sch.uk

Earth Works

diane.lakey@ellingham.northumberland.sch.uk

Time Zone

jill.dodds@ellingham.northumberland.sch.uk

Kathy, is still contactable through Messenger but may not answer on a Sunday night or before she gets up in the morning!

Lunch costs this term will be as follows:

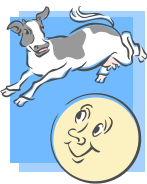


The cost is £2.50 per day; £12.50 per week; £75.00 for the first half of the term; £60.00 for the second half and £135.00 for the whole term.

Swimming for Earth Works is £4.00 a session. There are 10 sessions this term at a cost of £40.00.



Payments can be made via a secure link in a text which we will send, on request, on a Tuesday. A cheque or cash can be sent in a clearly marked envelope, at any time. As we get further through the term a text will be sent automatically to clear the arrears on your account. Texts come from CSD PLUS and refer to a transaction with Northumberland County Council. A text link only lasts 24 hours. There is nothing on the initial link to indicate it is from us but once you click on it more details are available.



Milk this term, will be charged retrospectively at the end of the term. Any child who paid for milk last term will be charged again this term, unless you have spoken to Kathy

We continue to run a well-attended After School club each night until 4.15pm. There are still spaces available for all the clubs. It is also usually possible to arrange short notice, ad hoc sessions if you

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suddenly need additional child care. Sports clubs cost £2.50 an hour (subsidised with our government PE grant), Fun, Forest Craft and Film club £5.00 an hour.

Please speak to Kathy if you would like more information. Invoices for ASC will be sent out shortly.

Heads up for future dates:

On Thursday 7th March, it is World Book day and we are asking the children to dress up as a book character, if they would like to.

Friday 8th March, we will be holding 'Tea and Treats' for Mother Day. Come along to school from 2.15pm - 3.15pm and have a cuppa and some home-made cakes. Your child can join you and give you the Mother's Day card they have made. If this is going to affect school transport, please make sure your driver knows.



Parents consultations will take place on Thursday 14th March from 3.20pm-5.30pm, booking information will be sent closer to the time.



We are celebrating Red Nose Day on Friday 15th March. We will be holding a non-uniform day and collecting donations. Wear something red, if you have it, and take part in some of the challenges that will be held in school.

We still have a successful Clothes Bank in the school front courtyard. Please mention this locally as it is easily accessible even when school is closed. You can donate clothes, shoes (pairs), hats, belts, jewellery etc. Everything needs to be put in a bag and dropped into the bin. This is a very easy way to fundraise for school and look after our planet at the same time. Since the introduction of the Clothes Bank we have raised over £200.

It seems likely that the weather will warm waterproof coat, hat and gloves closure, information will be sent by Radio Newcastle as well as the school



remain very cold. Please make sure your child has a in school. In the event of a school bad weather text, and will be on the school, NCC website and Facebook page.

If you are looking for something to do at half term, Alnwick Story Fest will take place 16th - 18th February. There are events for children and adults. Check out their website. [Alnwick Story Fest](#)

There is an App available for our website making it easier to view on a mobile phone.

Search for "eSchools Lite" in the [App Store \(Apple\)](#) or [Google Play \(Android\)](#) or use the handy QR code and download for **FREE!** **Make sure you are downloading the correct schools' website! There are quite a few similar named schools.**

Once you put Ellingham into the search, ours is the third one down and says Ellingham C of E Aided Primary School, Chathill, NE67 5ET



There is also an App for reading our Newsletters on Parentmail. The App is called "IRISParentMail"

We break up for half term on Friday 16th February. This is later than a lot of the country. Please check your holiday arrangements carefully and always consult our web site for dates, not generic dates given on social media or NCC site, as our teacher training days can differ.

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