



Principal's Blog

18th May 2018

What a super busy week! I am so very proud of the Year 6's – they have concentrated so hard, focused and really shown their best sides! I would also like to say a massive thank you to the staff across the school who have gone over and above to make sure this week was as positive as it could be for the children. Our three fabulous breakfast club ladies bustled, toasted and washed up – Mrs Burrell, Mrs Judd and Mrs Worrall – THANK YOU SO MUCH! Also, Miss Holmes moved Y5 into the big hall for each morning, and Mr Brandon set up tables and chairs and packed them away each day. This was an enormous effort which is SO appreciated.

I am enjoying teaching writing in Y6 – we have already been notified that we have an Early Years moderation which is happening on Monday, and also have had a Bedford Borough monitoring check for our preparation for the SATs. So, I fully expect that we will have some kind of moderation for our KS2 writing – it's on a four year cycle and Elstow has not been moderated since we have had a Y6 cohort, so I feel our time is up! As soon as I know and we have some news to feed back, I will let you all know.

On the drop off and pick up front – you will I am sure have noticed that myself and the team (including Mr Brandon) are out to make sure everyone is safe. I have had a couple of complaints from local residents asking that parents don't park across driveways. In general there is a pretty busy 10 minutes at both times, and then it is over. I would ask that you are patient as cars pull in and out. I am trying to encourage careful parking and indicating when pulling in or out 😊

Elstow School Behaviour Card

Name _____

Class _____

Week beg. _____

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
Arrival at school					
Session 1					
Session 2					
Break					
Session 3					
Lunch					
Session 4					
Session 5					★

Y6 Behaviour and Transition update.

Mrs Maples has been looking at the ways we can help our Y6 prepare for secondary school. In particular, we know that there are card systems in place for all pupils in the schools our children will attend. With this in mind, we are introducing a behaviour card for **ALL Y6 children**.

As this is new, they will be given them next week, have them explained in an assembly and then **have a week** to get used to them.

So, for example, they will carry their cards with them and if they have come in the wrong uniform (let's say – trainers instead of school shoes), we will

say that **AFTER HALF TERM**, this will mean they have a cross on their card in the appropriate session where it was noted. (So, for incorrect uniform that would come at the start of the day.) We will take care to explain the system to every child and give lots of examples of when they will get a cross on their card instead of a tick. The cards will be individual and no child will have to show their card to other children – only teachers.

Please do speak to the teachers if you would like any more information or are unsure about this.

A few weeks ago, Baz Wynter (TT Rock Stars) came in to school to film and interview us about how we are using the programme and the impact it is having. TT Rock Stars is in place in a great number of primary and secondary schools across the country and is for promoting TT Rock Stars in China.

Codes:

- ✓ = positive behaviour choices
- ^ = not following instructions immediately/ not completing learning tasks.
- × = calling out/answering an adult back
- o = saying unkind/rude words to others
- * = fighting/pushing/hurting others
- L = Late



To earn reward time on Friday, session 5 you need:

- 1) To earn 35 ticks on your chart.
- 2) To keep your card safely in your pencil case all week.
- 3) To make sure your card is marked at the end of each session.

The film is now ready to share and Elstow features strongly in it! Here is the link to watch it ☺

https://www.pearvideo.com/video_1344481

Thank you to all who have asked children to wear plain PE kits – fewer and fewer children are arriving with logos on their kit. A very small Adidas or Nike is fine – a giant one across the front isn't. On the PE kit front, a parent asked me to make sure that everyone knows when PE kits are needed. A fair point – I have spoken to the teachers and asked them to put notices in their classroom windows. However, if children arrive at school in PE kits and there isn't PE, as long as the kit is correct (plain track suit or shorts and a PE shirt with Elstow logo or a plain white one) then there won't be a problem.

I've been watching the arrival and departure of children on bikes in particular these last few weeks. A large number are cycling on pavements and even roads, without bike helmets. Please insist children wear them – some schools won't allow children to cycle to or from school without them. I'm confident however, that those parents of children who cycle, will remind their children to wear them. Thank you

Have a great weekend and see you all for the last week before half term. Fingers crossed for nice weather for the Year 5 residential coming up on Wednesday.

Samantha Baxter

Diary Dates

MAY

23rd Y5 Residential Bromham until Friday 25th - expected back in school by 3.30

25th May – FINISH FOR HALF TERM

JUNE

4th School resumes 8.30 am

5th Sing –on Y3 resumes weekly 1.30 – 2.15 in school

6th Selected Pupils Y6 Athletics Stadium

BFS Students continue reading with Y2 in school

Guitar for Y4 continues in school

6.30 LGB Elstow Hall

8th Kestrels swimming (every Friday to the end of term)

12th EYFS Trip to Gullivers Land

Y1 Multi Sports @ Daubeney

13th New to Reception parents evening 18:00 – 19:00 in small hall

14th Y4 Falcons Trip – Space Museum, Leicester. All day. Back by end of school day

Carl Denham Gym Session for Y5 (**PE KITS NEEDED**) Big Hall 11.15 – 12.30

21st Y4 Kestrels Trip – Space Museum, Leicester. All day. Back by end of school day

Carl Denham 2ND Gym Session for Y5 (**PE KITS NEEDED**) Big Hall 11.15 – 12.30

26th EYFS /KS1 Multisports Festival (**PE KITS NEEDED**)

28th Carl Denham 3rd Gym Session for Y5 (**PE KITS NEEDED**) Big Hall 11.15 – 12.30

Y6 Transition to BFS day. (13 Pupils)

29th SUMMER FAIR — 15:00 onwards in school.

JULY

2nd Reports out to parents

EYFS open afternoon for existing pupils and parents

Y2 Trip to Stanwick Lakes (Badgers)

3rd Singing in the Playground Concert 30 x Y5 pupils Kings House 1-4pm

4th Y2 Trip to Stanwick Lakes (Squirrels)

Sing-On concert – PM Y3 Pupils in Corn Exchange 13:00 depart from school. Evening performance.

5th Elstow transition morning – pupils to new classes

Y6 Transition to BA (29 pupils)

EY new pupils 13:30 – 14:30 afternoon

Carl Denham 4th Gym Session for Y5 (**PE KITS NEEDED**) Big Hall 11.15 – 12.30

6th EY new pupils 13:30 – 14:30 afternoon

Y6 Transition to BA (29 pupils)

9th SPORTS DAY EY KS1 AM KS2 PM PE kits all day all pupils

EY reports home to parents

10th Sports day (back up day if rained off on Monday)

11th Y5 Multi Sports Leadership training in school 9 -12

(Y1 & Y5 PE KITS TODAY – Y1 joining Y5 as part of the training)

12th Y5 Multi Sports Leadership training in school 9 -12

(Y2 & Y5 PE KITS TODAY – Y2 joining Y5 as part of the training)

Parent teacher drop in meetings – report feedback and meet the new class teacher. Open classes 15:30 – 17:00

13th Kempston Library Summer Reading Challenge assembly

STEM Fair 25 pupils Y6 pupils (location TBC – day time)

Y6 PROM 18:00 – 20:30.

16th HAIRSPRAY performance 17:00 BIG HALL Limited availability. School will watch dress rehearsal.

19th Y6 Leavers performance 14:00 Big Hall

20th END OF TERM 14:00