



ELTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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“LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU”

FRIENDSHIP

TRUST

JUSTICE

ENDURANCE

COMPASSION

KOINONIA

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope that you've all had a wonderful summer. I'm treating you to a special double bill of letters this week ☺ - this first one is just to remind you of key information and what to bring, so that we can hit the ground running on Wednesday. I'll do a welcome back letter and outline key information for the year, tomorrow.

Daily Routines

- **Drop and Roll** – two members of staff are outside the churchyard on Overend from **08:25 - 08:35** every morning. Dropping off your children alleviates much of the congestion caused by parking on Overend and enables you to start your day a little earlier. **All we ask is that you wait until your child has been registered by a member of staff before you drive away.** As always, please drive and park with care and consideration for other road users (and please let your child out on the pavement side ☺).
- The playground side-gate opens at **08:25** and closes at **08:40**.
- Please use the main entrance if you arrive later (ie after 08:40) and the gate is closed.
- Registers close at **08:50** – a child is marked as **late** if they arrive after this time, and as an unauthorised absence if they arrive after **09:00**.
- School ends at **15:30** (except after school clubs). If you are running late, please inform the office at the earliest opportunity, but do not worry - your child will always be kept safe with a member of staff.
- If your child is in Key Stage 2 and you would like them to either walk home independently, or walk to an agreed meeting point, then please inform us in writing. If the agreement is to meet you somewhere, please ensure they know what to do if you are not there or running late. Once they have left the school premises either with you, or to meet you, they are your responsibility.
- If your child is absent for a session through illness, or if they will be late in, please phone or email us before 08:30. If we haven't heard from you by the close of registration, Kerry will try to make contact with you, or failing that, with any other people you have listed as emergency contacts. If we have no response then our safeguarding procedures will begin, and we will do a safe and well check at your home address. Failure to make contact will result in police/social care involvement.
- Where possible, please park in the Black Horse carpark, on Overend (leaving space for the school bus) or on Middle Street beyond the School Lane turn off (ie not on the top bend). For the safety of our children, cars should not be driven or parked on School Lane between **08:20-08:45**, or from **15:20-16:40 (ie after children have been collected from clubs)** unless prior permission has been obtained (eg blue-badge holders, parents collecting sick children etc). Please ensure that any adult responsible for dropping off/collecting your child is aware of this, especially those who may not be familiar with school routines (eg grandparents).

Uniform

Arriving at school well-presented and in uniform, is an indication that children are ready to achieve high standards of self-discipline and behaviour which will help them to be successful in their learning. It also unites the school community and gives everyone a sense of pride in belonging to our school. If there is any particular reason why your child cannot wear an item of uniform, please inform us in writing. On PE days, children should wear their Elton PE uniform, and any piercings need to be removed or taped up for PE lessons.

Children staying for sports clubs after school should come to school in PE kit, not their own choice of football strip/leisure wear. We do have both spare uniform and spare PE kit items in school, so please let us know if there is anything you need to borrow from us. Long hair (girls and boys) must always be tied back for school.

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It is really important that all children have a spare pair of footwear (old trainers or wellies) in school that they can change into when the field is muddy or wet. This helps preserve the life of school shoes and the school flooring. Spare footwear should be named and kept in a named carrier bag (or drawstring bag). Rucksacks are not suitable for this purpose.

When should my child wear their PE kit?

If your child is doing a sporting after-school club, they should come to school in their school PE kit. In addition, PE kits should be worn on the following PE days (no need to bring in uniform to change into – they remain in their PE kit all day).

- Monday – Year 1 (St Francis Class)
- Tuesday – Year 6 (Edith Cavell Class)
- Wednesday – Year4/5 (St Etheldreda Class)
- Thursday – EYFS (St John Class) and Year 2 (St Peter Class)
- Friday – Year 3/4 (St Christopher Class) along any other pupils in Years 2-6 if they are part of the Elton Enrich sporting cycle of activities.

PE lessons will resume immediately.

School Clubs this week

- Breakfast club is running this week
- Wrap-around care (after school) is on Wednesday and Thursday this week. On Friday there will be the usual Disco Dodgeball in place of wrap-around care (16:30 finish).
- Please email Callum directly to book a space totalsportsstars@gmail.com for any wraparound care sessions.

Items in school

Please ensure that children bring the following into school:

- A book bag (or additional carrier bag) that fits into their tray in the classroom. Although I am fine with the odd keyring so that the book bags are personalized and are easily identifiable, there should not be so many on one bag that it becomes impossible to close a tray/drawer. A reminder that we politely request that no back packs are brought into school as these take up too much room and are too bulky for our coat pegs. They often end up blocking exits and are therefore a hazard.
- Water-bottle (named) – these are kept in a water carrier in each classroom and must contain water only. Water-bottles should purely be for the purposes of drinking water, so no attachments (fans, sprays or “air-up” style capsule bottles in school please).
- Some form of waterproof coat/jacket (this can be kept in school if preferred) so that we can always have break outside.
- Spare shoes or wellies in a named plastic bag. Where possible, I would like the children to be on the field at break-times and lunchtimes so that they have more space to play and can mingle with friends from different year groups. I appreciate though that school shoes are ridiculously expensive, and the combination of wet grass/mud and new shoes is not ideal! Therefore, I would like to remind you that all children are invited to bring in a named change of footwear for break and lunchtimes (wellingtons, old trainers etc **no football boots/studs**) which they can put on and take off independently.
- Snacks – children in EYFS/KS1 receive a piece of fruit or vegetable every day as part of the free government healthy eating scheme. Children in KS2 are welcome to bring in their own snack for lunch, however it must follow the same principles – namely real fruit or vegetables only, not fruit-flavoured equivalents or options coated in yoghurt or dipped in chocolate ☺
- Any medication must be sent directly to the office – there is a form to complete for any medication administered in school.
- Y6 only (optional) a small empty pencil case – although we do have plenty in school and can provide everything needed. Please do not put anything in the pencil cases.

Allergies reminder

We have children in school with severe and potentially life-threatening allergies for which they need to carry an epipen at all times. **It is essential therefore, that if you send in any food containing allergens (this includes birthday treats for the class, snacks for school trips as well as packed lunches and cake bake donations), you inform the office so that appropriate arrangements can be made.** In consultation with parents and medical staff, we have made the decision not to ban certain foodstuffs entirely as we believe in equipping children with life-skills - one of which is understanding and managing risk. As part of our duty in mitigating the risk though, we will be teaching children that although sharing is usually a positive thing to be

encouraged (sharing resources, taking turns etc), sharing food, just like sharing medicines is not allowed without asking an adult, because people react differently when things are inside their bodies. We would ask that you support us with this message at home.

School Dinners

This term's menu is attached to this email and is also available on the website. Please note that school dinners will be £2.70 per meal for KS2 (non Pupil Premium) from Wednesday 3rd September. Payments should be made in advance via the School Gateway App. It takes considerable time chasing debts, and in secondary school (and in real life ☺) you aren't allowed to order food that you haven't paid for. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Celebration Assemblies

There will be no Celebration Assembly this Friday (5th September) Celebration Assembly will resume next Friday (12th) at 15:00, and all parents etc are warmly invited to attend.

We take this time to celebrate birthdays and in-school achievements for the week, and would like to invite children to share selected extra-curricular achievements with us. Due to time restrictions, we can only share the items listed below in our Friday assemblies, but children can bring other extra-curricular achievements to share in class.

Items for Friday Celebration Assemblies	Items for sharing in class
Certificates and badges for different levels of a nationally accredited scheme in the following areas: Swimming Tennis Gymnastics Martial Arts Ballet/Dance Examinations for musical instruments LAMDA examinations Badges for Rainbows, Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts etc Official "sponsored" events eg Race for Life etc County or National level achievements	Medals, certificates and details of competitions won (including man of the match/player of the tournament etc) Medals for fun-runs, rosettes etc

All items must have been awarded recently (ie within the 2 weeks prior to the assembly)

With very best wishes for the start of the academic year.

Yours sincerely

Claire Arnold
Headteacher