



ELTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Lane, Elton, Peterborough, PE8 6RS

Telephone: 01832 280314

E-mail: office@elton.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.eltonschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Claire Arnold

“LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU”

FRIENDSHIP

TRUST

JUSTICE

ENDURANCE

COMPASSION

KOINONIA

Autumn Term 2025 - St John (EYFS) Class Information

Thank you for welcoming us into your homes this week. It was a delight to see all the children in their home environment, I have tried to pre-empt any questions you may have in the information outlined below. However, as always, if there is anything I have missed or if you would like to talk to me about something specific, you catch me either in the morning or after school. Alternatively, email me at lbeasley@elton.cambs.sch.uk or phone the office to make an appointment.

- The Big Question: This term, the class will be exploring “How Can We Live in Harmony?” and investigating the concept of peace. Together, we will be spending time getting to know each other and we will think about how we have changed since we were born and how our lives differ from our parents and grandparents’ lives. We will be using a wide variety to support our learning: “What Makes Me a Me?” By Ben Faulks and David Tazzyman; “What Did the Tree See?” by Charlotte Guillain and Sam Usher; and “We Are All Wonders” by R. J. Palacio.
- We will be developing our skills across many areas of the curriculum throughout this topic. Our main areas of focus this term will be the prime areas of the Early Years’ Curriculum: Physical Development; Communication and Language; and Personal, Social and Emotional Development.
- To help our historical learning please could you supply (hard copy or an email) photos of your child as a baby. Additionally, and if possible, we would also like photos of you as an adult and child, photos of grandparents and grandparents as a child. Please be aware that before sending anything in, we will be displaying them in our classroom and you will not receive them back.
- Furthermore, would you also be kind enough to see if any grandparents would like to come in and share photos and talk to us about what life was like for them when they were younger. We would particularly like to hear about toys and games that they played, what school was like and how Christmas was celebrated. If there are any willing volunteers then please could you email me or phone the school and we can arrange for them to visit.
- Phonics Homework - When we start learning our sounds (Phase 2 Phonics) we will begin by learning individual letter sounds (phonemes). We would like you to practise these sounds each week - ideally for 5 minutes each day. We will send phonics homework to you via TEAMS. You will receive a log in for your child’s TEAMS account over the next few weeks.
- Reading – We will, once children can recognise sounds and blend words, ‘send’ home one electronic book every two weeks for your child to read. They would have previously read this book at school and therefore will be familiar with the text. We kindly ask that you practise reading this book with them - focusing on encouraging them to read fluently. By this, we mean reading the words without sounding out each individual sound prior to saying the word. Before children are ready to read books with words, we will send out books that have no words in them. This encourages children to tell stories. Please be aware that we will not be sending books out until children have enough knowledge to be able to read them successfully.

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- Junk Modelling - We would love to receive boxes especially cereal boxes, tubes, egg boxes, corks and feathers. I would also be grateful if you could let us have any spare buttons that you have at home.
- Please ensure that your child has a water bottle with them every day. I would also be grateful if you could make sure all clothes and water bottles are named.
- Please be aware that the classroom door is left open for the majority of the school day. Therefore, at times, the classroom can be 'chilly'. You may want to think carefully about layering up during the cold months. We also endeavour to go outside in all weathers - please ensure that your child has an appropriate coat for the time of year. Additionally, as a school, we like to go out in all weathers, therefore, we would also like your child to bring in a pair of wellies so that we can keep in school for use on the field when it is wet and muddy.
- Spare clothes. Please also supply a fully named set of spare clothes including underwear and socks that we can keep for accidents/wet days. We do have a limited supply of spare clothes and if we send your child home in our spare stock, we would appreciate receiving it back as soon as possible to ensure we do not run out of spares.
- PE. We will have our PE lesson on Thursday morning. Children should come to school in PE kit on this day.

Early reading information session.

We will be holding an early reading information session for parents at 3:35 on Wednesday 17th September. We find it much easier and productive if children do not attend this session as they are both tired after a day at school and do not want to hear any more about phonics! Callum has kindly agreed to allow any EYFS children, whose parents attend the early reading session, to attend afterschool club for free on this occasion. Please could you email me to let us know if you will attend the session and if your child will be accessing the after-school club.

ALLERGY

Please be aware that we have a child in the class this year that has severe allergies. We are therefore taking extra precautions within the classroom: we are limiting some of the junk modelling items, for example, we will not be using yoghurt pots this year. However, do not worry, there will still be plenty of other items that we can make into all sorts of things that I am sure you will welcome into your home! We ask for your support in keeping everyone safe and with this in mind we ask that you do not bring in items from home unless specifically asked for. We would also appreciate your help in reinforcing the idea that whilst at school we encourage sharing but food is like medicine and within the school environment we never share food with others. This will unlikely be a rule you have at home but it is always good to learn that different environments have different rules that we have to adapt to.

Many thanks for your support. I look forward to a busy and exciting term with your children! Please feel free to talk to me about how your child has settled any time after school when I see the class out at the end of the day.

The EYFS Team