

Elworth CE Primary Newsletter January 2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR

'Love God, Love Learning, Love one another' Matt 22 V 36-39

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience

First of all I would like to wish everybody a Happy New Year and I am glad to see everybody back in school after a very cold and unusual start to the new term. Thank you for your support and understanding with the decision to close the school on Tuesday. I think this was the right decision to keep all of the children safe.

We have lots of exciting events in the calendar this month, one being our visit to the National church of England Education conference called Flourishing Leaders taking place in London. A group of children in Year 6 will be going with me to support our good friend Chip K who will be leading worship and creativity at the conference. It is an honour to be invited to such an important event. I will be posting on Instagram during the day so please follow us on 22nd January

This term's Christian Value is compassion. Further on in the newsletter please read Cathryn's worship update for more information. We will be hoping to partner with Compassion UK and will be writing in due course with how you can be part of this wonderful project

I have received a lot of positive feedback regarding the new Instagram account and we will continue to work towards sharing more around school life and events in school

Please have a look at our key dates section for an update on what is happening in school this half term. These can also be seen on the school calendar on the website.

I look forward to another busy and fun filled month.

Mr N Garratt

UPCOMING TRIPS

- 22nd January - Flourishing Leaders - Invite only

OFFICE REMINDERS

- Please bring a water bottle to school each day.
- All school clothing to be clearly named
- Meal and Early Birds & Night Owls accounts to be kept up to date at all times

Regards ,
The office

KEY DIARY DATES

<u>Diary Dates</u>		
Friday	9th January	Year 3 Trip - Science and industry museum
Friday	9th January	Year 4 - Playleader workshop - Sports coaching Group
Thursday	15th January	Girls Football league - Sandbach United
Friday	16th January	Year 4 - Playleader workshop - Sports coaching Group
Tuesday	20th January	Individual & Sibling Photographs
Wednesday	21st January	Phillippa Leathley author visit
Thursday	22nd January	Flourishing Leaders National conference
Thursday	22nd January	Girls Football league - Sandbach United
Friday	23rd January	Year 4 - Playleader workshop - Sports coaching Group
Monday	27th January	Tag Rugby competition - Sandbach Girls school
Thursday	29th January	Parents online safety meeting -6:30pm-7:30pm
Friday	30th January	Year 4 - Playleader workshop - Sports coaching Group
Monday	2nd February	Year 6 Girls - Visit to Shrek performance @ Sandbach Girls school
Thursday	5th February	Girls Football league - Sandbach United
Friday	6th February	Year 4 - Playleader workshop - Sports coaching Group
Monday	9th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Wednesday	11th February	PTA Disco EYFS & Year 3/4
Thursday	12th February	PTA Disco Year 1/2 & Year 5/6
Thursday	12th February	Girls Football league - Sandbach United
Friday	13th February	Prayer space day
Friday	13th February	Year 4 - Playleader workshop - Sports coaching Group
Friday	13th February	School closes for half term



SCHOOL UPDATES

We had a fantastic end to the school year raising lots of funds for some wonderful charities. We raised over £1800 for St Luke's by running our Elf Run. The staff and children look forward to this event every year and the snow machine always proves to be great fun .

The school council have made a great start on their fundraising for the buddy bench. We will hopefully doing lots more brownie sales in the coming weeks when the weather improves.

We are looking to make further improvements around school and I look forward to sharing pictures with you later in the school year. We are currently working on improvements for the main reception as well as our music room .

WORSHIP UPDATES

On behalf of the church family at St. Peter's, I would like to extend wishes for a very Happy New Year to our Elworth CE families.

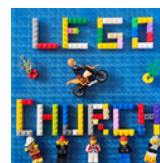
We have lots of exciting things planned for Worship during January and the Spring term and I'd like to tell you about a few of them.

Our Christian value for this term is Compassion and we shall be exploring the Bible verse in Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

With this verse in mind, we shall be finding out about the work of the charity 'Compassion UK' and researching ways of supporting its work across the world. We shall also be exploring acts of kindness and trying to answer the question: "What would it feel like to be in their shoes?"

Our Friday night groups have now resumed after the Christmas break. Xplore which is a group for younger children (Reception – Year 4) starts at 6:00pm and ends at 7:15pm. Our Youth group, Encounter (Year 5+) starts at 7:30pm and finishes at 9:00pm. At both groups we have a lot of fun with games, crafts, Bible stories and music. Simply bring your child along and register for free.

On Wednesday 14th January we have our next Lego Church in the church hall from 3:15pm – 4:30pm. All are welcome accompanied by a parent/carer and the topic this month is The Prodigal Son. Again, this is a free event.



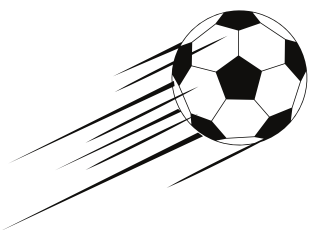
Finally, on Saturday 14th February St. Peter's will be offering a Pancake Party to the children of Elworth CE. We shall be finding out about why we have Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday) in the first place and exploring what the period of Lent is all about. There will be lots of pancakes, games, songs and general fun to be had too. The Pancake Party will be a free event but booking is essential. Please see the advert and do sign your child up if they'd like to come along. There is no charge.



SPORTS NEWS

We have a lot of events coming up in 2026 starting with our Y5/6 girls football league on Thursday 15th January for 5 weeks during this half term. We also have a Y5/6 Tag Rugby competition on Monday 26th January! Our after school sports clubs will start again on week commencing Monday 19th January and we will be offering a variety of different options for all year groups.

Thankyou so much for your contributions for the Elf Run at the end of last year, the children had unreal fun and we managed to raise an amazing £1800





PTA NEWS

🎉 PTA Update – Looking Back at a Fantastic December 🎉

As we start the new year, the PTA would like to take a moment to reflect on what was a busy and incredibly successful December, and to say a huge thank you to our whole school community for your continued support.

We are delighted to share that, together, we raised an amazing £3432.43 during December. This is a fantastic achievement and will make a real difference to children across the school.

🎄 December Highlights

December was packed with festive activity, and we're proud of what we achieved together:

- **Christmas Fair** – A wonderful event full of festive fun and community spirit. Thank you to everyone who attended, donated, and helped make the day such a success.
- **KS2 Christmas Shows** – The PTA was pleased to provide welcome drinks at the performances, helping to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for families attending the shows.
- **Book Wrapping** – Our PTA volunteers wrapped hundreds of books, ensuring every child received a beautifully wrapped gift.
- **A Gift from Santa** – The PTA arranged a present from Santa for the whole school, which added a special moment of excitement and magic for the children.
- **Christmas Lunch Crackers** – We were delighted to provide crackers for the Christmas lunch, helping to make the day extra festive for everyone.

🙏 **Thank You**

None of this would have been possible without:

- Parents and carers who supported events and fundraising
- Everyone who volunteered their time
- Staff who supported PTA activities
- Your generosity and involvement are truly appreciated.

🧐 Looking Ahead

We have some exciting events coming up this term:

EYFS & Years 3 & 4 Disco – 11 February

Years 1 & 2 & Years 5 & 6 Disco – 12 February

Looking ahead to our 2026 fundraising target, the PTA will be meeting with the Children's School Council in the coming weeks to gain their input and vote on new play equipment for the school. We'll be sharing more details soon, including how you can help support this amazing cause.

Thank you once again for making December such a success. We wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year



— Your PTA Team

Apply online for a school place

It's quick and easy

If you are a parent resident in Cheshire East, with a child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, your child will be due to start primary school in September 2026.

If you do not have web access

call 0300 123 5012

You can apply from
1st September 2025 at
**[www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/
schooladmissions](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schooladmissions)**

Applications should be submitted by

31st October 2025 for secondary

15th January 2026 for primary

Late applications may be disadvantaged



Cheshire East
Council

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of an amazing team



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For more information:

visit: www.safetycentral.org.uk/volunteers scan the QR code

email: safetycentral@cheshirefire.gov.uk

tel: 01606 868643



Cheshire
Fire & Rescue Service



ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

MANAGING DIGITAL FRIENDSHIPS – ONLINE VS REAL-WORLD FRIENDSHIPS

ISSUE 11

ONLINE VS REAL-WORLD FRIENDSHIPS

Online games and apps make it easy for children to form friendships, especially when they share interests or enjoy playing together. For children, this can feel exciting and fun - but it's important to remind them that people online may not always be who they say they are. Unlike real-world friends, we can't truly know the person behind the screen.

Encourage your child to play and chat only with people they know in real life, and let them know that they should always come to you if someone online makes them feel unsure, upset, or uncomfortable. Keeping communication open helps children enjoy the benefits of online play while staying safe.



IMPERSONATION

One of the biggest dangers children face online is the threat of **impersonation**. When online friendships are formed that exclusively remain online, it becomes difficult to determine whether the person they're speaking to is genuine.

Children should be taught to watch out for signs that someone online may not be who they say they are – such as asking for personal information or giving incorrect details. As a parent, it's also a good idea to check in if your child starts talking about a 'new friend' they've met online.

Scan the QR code to find out more:



APP SPOTLIGHT - STEAM

This week's app spotlight is **Steam**.

Steam is a popular online platform where users can

buy, download, and play games. While many games on Steam are aimed at older players, there are also child-friendly options available. Parents should be aware that Steam also includes social features, allowing users to add friends and chat.



- Steam requires users to be at least 13 years old to create an account.
- Not all games on Steam are suitable for children. Check the age rating and read reviews before allowing your child to download or play any game.

Scan the QR code to learn more:



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Attendance

As we are now over half way through the academic year we wanted to put in some key reminders regarding attendance.

Holiday requests

If you are going to request leave during term time, this must be done at least two weeks in advance of the period of leave. Forms are ready for collection from the school office. Most leave during term time will not be authorised. It is only in exceptional circumstances where leave may be granted. This is a decision made by the headteacher.

Punctuality

We understand that there are some occasions where children may not arrive at school on time. Children who do not arrive on time can be marked as late before the register closes, or late after the register closes depending on the time of arrival. Marks after the register closes are unauthorised and can result in the school requesting support from the local authority. If your child has 3 or more late marks on the register we will be in contact with you.

Reason to believe

When children are ill after a period of leave from school e.g an unauthorised holiday we may complete extra checks to ensure that the code on the register which has been given for that child is accurate. The registers are a legal document which we need to correct.

PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ARE CHANGING !

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force on 19 August 2024.

Penalty Notices will be issued for

Term time leave: Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days.

10 Sessions of Unauthorised absence in a rolling 10 week period: A Penalty Notices may be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absences in a 10 week period.

However, we retain the discretion to issue a Penalty Notice before the threshold is met. For example, where parents are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below the above thresholds.

Per Parent/Per Child

Penalty Notice fines will continue to be issued per parent per child. For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular school attendance the fine will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of the issue, reducing to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

(Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

Second Offence

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second penalty notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first penalty notice, for either term time leave or irregular attendance the second penalty notice will be charged at:

£160 if paid within 28 days. (Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

Third Offence

On the third time that an offence is committed within 3 years of the first penalty notice for either a term time leave or irregular attendance a penalty notice will not be issued. The case may proceed to Parental Prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure. If found guilty of the offence of 'Failure to send a child to school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1000 or legal proceedings under Section 444 (1a) can include a fine of up to £2500.



Cheshire East

TOGETHER for Children and Young People

Together we will make Cheshire East a great place to be young

OFFICIAL

The Woodlands Dental Practice

We are pleased to be able to offer unregistered children and students appointments for an NHS dental check-up. As a reminder, NHS dental treatment for children is free for those under 18 or age 18 and in full time education.

Why early dental visits are vital.

Regular check-ups are essential for long-term health. Currently in England, tooth decay remains the leading cause of hospital admissions for children aged 5 to 9.

Prevention First: Early visits allow us to apply preventative treatments like fluoride varnish and fissure sealants, which are now a priority under the 2026 NHS dental reforms.

Developing Habits: Seeing a dentist before a child's first birthday (or as soon as their first tooth appears) helps them become familiar with the environment, reducing future anxiety.

Early Detection: We can identify potential issues early, preventing pain and the need for complex treatments or extractions later in life.

Overall Health: Good oral health impacts eating, sleeping, and even academic performance, so preventing decay protects overall well-being.

Confirming or Changing Your Appointment.

To make an appointment please call the practice on 01606 832 173 and ask about availability for kids clubs, one of the team will be more than happy to make you an appointment.

If you are unable to attend, please contact us at least 48 hours in advance so we may offer the slot to another patient.

There is limited appointment availability so to avoid disappointment please contact us as soon as possible.