



## Elton Primary School & Nursery

School Lane  
Elton  
Chester  
CH2 4LT

**Telephone:** 01244 981170

**Fax:** 01928 724312

**Email:** [admin@elton.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@elton.cheshire.sch.uk)

**Website:** [www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk](http://www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk)

**Headteacher – Mr Kevin Manning**

29<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Our Ref: PARL 0750

Dear Parent/Carer,

Well that half-term went fast: it doesn't seem like five minutes since I was writing my last letter. To be fair, this was the shortest half term of the year but nevertheless we still managed to pack a great deal in.

The half-term started with us returning to a fantastic new look in the junior department. The Friends of Elton had managed to bid successfully for enough money for some new carpets in Year 4 and Year 6. They then gave up lots of their time to help reorganise all the furniture and set the classrooms back up ready for the return of the children. Coupled with the superb ELSA room they created last term, the tireless and creative crew have really given the Key Stage Two area a whole new look.

Other volunteers who have been extremely generous with their time and skills this term include Mr Fisk who leads our Coding Club, Mrs Savins who taught the Choir how to sing and sign and Mrs Gibson who reads daily with our lower junior children. We are so lucky to have parents who offer their skills to enrich our curriculum. If anyone else has a skill or time to offer school then we'd love to hear about it. One area we are particularly keen to work on is having more male readers in school – so if there are any dads or grandads who are able to offer some time to read with our children then please let us know.

Once again it has been so pleasing to see so many parents in and around school. It was great to see so many families visit school for both the 'Stay and Play' sessions and for parents' evenings. I know that the staff and children love it when we have so many parents in school to join in with the fun activities and see how lessons are taught in school. A few parents were mentioning to me about the methods we use to teach maths. If you look on our website you will see our new comprehensive calculation policy which will hopefully help you in supporting your children at home with their number skills.

One of the highlights of this half-term was World Book Day. We were all stunned with the creativity and ingenuity that had gone into the costumes – I'll have to try much harder with my costume next time! It was a brilliant day and so great to see all the children working so well together within their teams reading books to each other.

One of the themes this half-term has been 'Keeping Safe'. We have continued to teach the children the importance of being careful both in the physical and digital worlds. The juniors were visited by



guests from Northern Rail and British Transport Police to discuss the importance of safety around railway tracks. This was the first of several activities that we have planned involving railways and Elton station. Next term we are hoping to begin work on a project to help beautify the station to make it a more pleasant and safer environment.

Today is a sad day for us all at Elton Primary School as we say goodbye to our hardworking SENDCo Mrs Morphet. I know everyone will join me in thanking her for doing such a wonderful job in supporting our children and families. We wish her the very best for the future. Mrs Higginson will take up the role of SENDCo starting from next term.

This week we have had a new name for all the children, staff and parents to get used to – I've failed miserably so far! Following her wedding last Saturday, Miss Edwards has now become Mrs Baldwin! I'm sure everyone will join me in congratulating the happy couple and wishing them the best for the future.

There will be a new face to the school staff next term – if only for a short while. We will be very fortunate to have Mrs Walker working with our Year 2 and Year 6 children for the whole of the next half term. Mrs Walker will work alongside Mrs Higginson and Miss Roberts in preparing the children for their end of year assessments.

Obviously a major personal highlight for me this term was my appointment as the permanent head. I have been honestly overwhelmed with the supportive comments that I have received both verbally and via the Friends of Elton Facebook page. The amazing support that I have been given since September from all parents was one of the key reasons I decided to apply for the job. It is an absolute privilege to be your Headteacher and I look forward to continuing to work closely with all of you in the future.

Next half term starts with two four-day weeks due to Easter weekend. Nevertheless it will be an action packed return straight from the off as Year Two go on their Foxhowl residential on the first Tuesday back; while Year Six have their Stay and Learn session on the first Wednesday. But before then let's hope the recent sunshine stays with us for the duration of the two week break and I hope everyone enjoys a relaxing well-deserved spring holiday.

Mr Manning

