Queen Eleanor Primary School, Harby

Autumn Term 1 Newsletter 2026

Message from Mrs Wright:

Welcome back, I hope that everyone had a restful break and is ready for the new year. The children are all looking smart in their new uniforms and are ready for the year.



Just a reminder that children should be in school shoes and please can all uniform be labelled.

Please remember that we are nut free school as we do have children within school who have severe nut allergies. Please can pack ups and snacks not contain nuts; sweets in pack ups should also be avoided.



At Queen Eleanor we understand how important it is that children reach their full potential and that you as parents and guardians are vital to this. With this in mind we have expectations of the children with regards to work at home. All children (From Reception - Year 6) are expected to read 3 times and week at home - if they read 5 times they get a reading ticket which enters a termly draw. Reading is vital to all areas of the curriculum and is proven to enhance life opportunities.

Children from Year 1- 6 also have Spelling Shed and TTRS (Times Table Rock Stars) logins which they are expected to practise weekly. This aids their learning within school tremendously.





We thank you for your continued support and look forward to the year ahead.

Attendance - Every Day Counts:

Regular attendance is essential to your child's learning, progress and wellbeing. Every school day matters and even short periods of absence can mean children miss important learning that is difficult to catch up on.

Under the strengthened attendance Department of Education regulations, schools are expected to promote good attendance and work closely with families where attendance is a concern.

Our expectations:

- Children should attend school every day unless they are genuinely unwell.
- Children should arrive on time and ready to learn.
- Parents/carers should contact school promptly when their child is absent via phone call and before 9am.
- Holidays during term time will not be authorised and will result in further action - this is government policy.
- We understand that sometimes there are genuine barriers to attendance. If you have concerns, please talk to us early so that we can work together to support your child.

Fines:

The first penalty notice is £160 per parent, per child, reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

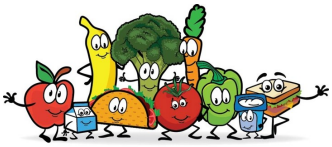
A second penalty notice within 3 years is £160 per parent, per child, with no reduced rate.

A third period of unauthorised absence within 3 years will not result in another penalty notice. The case may instead be referred for prosecution.

Please be aware that attendance fines are Government-issued, not school fines. Where the relevant criteria are met, we are required to follow the attendance procedures and submit the necessary information.

The school does not receive any money from attendance fines. Our priority remains supporting families and ensuring children attend school regularly and on time.

Changes to Free School Meals (FSM):



Free School Meals – Are You Eligible?

We would like to remind families to check whether they are eligible for Free School Meals (FSM).

From September 2026, all children living in households receiving Universal Credit can be eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of household earnings. Other qualifying benefits also apply.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they already receive Universal Infant Free School Meals. However, if you are eligible for benefits-related FSM, it is still important to apply. This allows school to receive additional Pupil Premium funding, which helps us provide extra support and opportunities for eligible pupils.

How to apply

Applications are made directly through Nottinghamshire County Council. You will need your National Insurance number, surname and date of birth, along with your child's details and school information.

Apply for Free School Meals – Nottinghamshire County Council

https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk

Please check your eligibility and apply if you think you may qualify. Every eligible application helps ensure families receive the support available to them and enables our school to access additional funding for pupils.

Inset Days

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Monday 22nd February 2027

Monday 26th July 2027

Tuesday 27th July 2027

Wednesday 28th July 2027

Diary Dates:



Wednesday 9th September - Open Morning - all welcome.

Wednesday 16th September - 9:30 flu vaccinations.

Wednesday 16th September - Library Van.

Thursday 24th September - KS2 trip to the Construction event.

Thursday 1st October - Reception and Year 6 - Height and Weight checks.

Tuesday 6th October - Harvest festival 10am.

Tuesday 13th October - School Photographer.

Wednesday 14th October - Library Van

Monday 19th October - Half term.

Monday 2nd November - Back to school.

Benedick's Law:



This is the new law for allergy-safety requirements for schools in England 2026. It was introduced following the tragic death of five-year-old Benedict Blythe after an anaphylactic reaction at school. As part of Benedict's Law and our commitment to keeping all our children safe, our school is **nut free.**

Some children have severe nut allergies, and even tiny amounts can cause a serious reaction. Please ensure that packed lunches, snacks and food brought into school do not contain nuts or nut products, including peanut butter and products labelled as containing nuts or traces of nuts.

Thank you for helping us keep our whole school community safe and inclusive.

Dojo:



Class Dojo is our main form of communication but we also send important information via email too. Dojo is brilliant for communicating with staff members and for celebrating children's successes within school. Whilst Dojo is an invaluable tool, it can encroach into staff's personal time, therefore quiet hours are set between 6pm and 8am on weekdays and at weekends so staff may not reply.

It is also important that dojo messages are sent to the correct staff members in order for concerns or enquiries to be addressed quickly. If your concern is about your child, their class teacher should be the first point of call. If your enquiry is about admin such as clubs, wrap around care, finances - Ms Goldstraw should be the first contact.

Clubs:

This term we have the following clubs available. The costs of Cookery Club has been subsidised by the school.



Monday - Cook Stars (some spaces are still available) 3:35 - 5pm - £7

Mobile Phones:



Following national safeguarding changes, mobile phones should not be brought in to school. If you believe that your child has an exceptional circumstance, such as travelling alone on the school bus, please contact the school office. Any mobile phone that is brought into school needs to be switched off and handed into the school office.

Harvest Festival:

Tuesday 6th October - 10am at All Saints Church, Harby.



Food donations can be dropped off at the church from 8:30 where Mrs Greggory will be there to receive them. These will be taken to the local foodbank following the service.

The service will involve, readings and songs from each class.

If anyone is willing to volunteer their time to take the donations to the foodbank, please let me know.

PE:



PE days are Wednesday and Friday - children need to come in school PE kit and sports trainers. School PE kit is black trousers, leggings or shorts, red t shirt (logo or unbranded) and a school jumper - no hoodies. Hair needs to be tied up and earrings need to be removed or covered.

Open Morning:

Wednesday 9th September, coffee and biscuits in the sports hall after schol drop off, followed by an hour of activities within the classrooms. All welcome - please share with any prospective parents.

Year 6:

We strongly believe that Year 6 should develop their responsibilities this year and so they will be organising and running activities for younger children at breaktimes, be paired readers, OPAL leaders, they will complete office duty each lunch.



Online Safety:



What will EYFS be learning this term?

EYFS Cycle 1 Overview Autumn Term

Understanding the World Topics/Themes

Cold, Cold, Cold - Seasonal changes - Winter - Arctic Animals and their habitat. Terrific Toys - Toys in the past and now - How toys are made (materials)

Communication and Language

Nursery: Communicate well through words and gestures - Listen and respond to adults and simple instructions

Reception: Show physical attributes and build confidence as a good speaker – Show physical attributes of a good listener and demonstrate good listening skills.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Nursery: Develop independence, confidence and flexibility – Understand expectations and routines – Learn to assert themselves – Form secure attachments – Play alongside others.

Reception: Develop and build on skills in independence, confidence and cooperation – Share and recognise emotions – respond to peers and adults in a friendly manner – initiate play.

Phonics

Nursery: Environmental and Instrumental sounds

Reception: GPC's: satp, inmd, gock, eur, hbf, l, jvw, xyz, zz,qu ch, sh th ng

Blend sounds together to read VC or CVC words containing phase 2 individual graphemes.

Common exception words: the, I, he, she, is, to, go, of, as, we, are, you, into

Maths

Nursery: Comparison – Shape, space and measure – Patterns – Counting – Subitising

Reception: Getting to know you – Match, sort and compare – Talk about measure and patterns – It's me 1,2,3 – Circles and Triangles – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 – Shapes with 4 sides

Expressive Art and Design

Nursery: Exploring marks and tools

Reception: Exploring materials and basic creation

Staying Safe

Be Bright, Be Seen

Firework Safety

Writing

Nursery: Explore mark making – Give meaning to marks

Reception: Consistent mark making and meaning – begin to form taught GPCs.

Physical Development

Nursery: Build strength – Develop control with tools

Reception: Awareness of bodies, space around us and movement – begin to make marks with a variety of tools.

Weekly PE sessions alongside KS1 with external provider.

Significant Events

Harvest Festival - Bonfire Night - Remembrance Day - Nursery Rhyme Week - Christmas

What will KS1 be learning this term?

Cold, Cold, Cold - KS1

Maths

Y1+ 2 – Place value, addition and subtraction, Shape.

Geography

Use World maps, atlases and globes to identify countries and continents. To identify the location of cold areas of the world in relation to the North and South Poles and to learn about the animals and people as well as climate issues.



Music



KS1 – Charanga - Hands, Feet, Heart
KS1 – Charanga - Ho Ho Ho

Computing



Technology around us - Recognising technology in school and using it responsibly.
Digital painting - choosing appropriate tools in a Program to create art, and making comparisons with working non-digitally.

English

Reception GPC's: satp, inmd, gock, eur, hbf, l, jvw, xyz, zz qu ch, sh th ng

Year 1GPC's: ay, ou, ie, ea, oy, ir, ue, aw, ew, a_e, e_e, i_e, o_e, u_e

Year 2 GPC's: 'long a' - a/ai/ay/a_e, 'long e' – ee/ea/y, 'long e' – ie/e_e/e, long i – igh/ie/i_e/y, prefix -un, long o – oa/oe/o_e/ow, long u – oo/ue/u_e/ew/u, ph, wh, ur, er, ir, ou, ow, or, ore, au, aw, ear, eer, air, ear, are.
Writing: Non – Chronological Report – Arctic (non-fiction) Poetry – Penguins (fiction) Instructions (non-fiction)

Science



Y2 -Living things and their habitats around the world
Y1 -Seasonal changes

RE



2.1 Belonging – What is it like to be a Christian in Notts / Lincoln. Christmas – Gift Bringers.
2.4 – Living – Who is a Muslim and how do they live?

Art

Snowy landscapes. Arctic/Antarctic animals / birds. Collage using range of materials for ice /fur /feathers.



History

Learn about significant historical events, people and places. To learn about the explorations of Scott of the Antarctic and Shackleton and their contributions to National achievements.



P.S.H.E

KS1 - VIP's
KS1 – Relationships and Growing Up



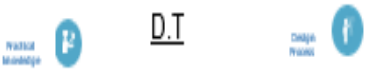
P.E.



Multi skills
Striking games – Sports Provider



D.T



Making igloos, moving penguins, sledges that slide.
Food Technology- Ice fruit cubes and iced slushies.



What will KS2 be learning this term?

Life in the Freezer - KS2

Maths

Y3 + 4 – Place value, addition and subtraction

Y5 + 6 – Place value, addition and subtraction, Multiplication and division

English

Y3/4 – Shackleton – Narrative (fiction)
Y3/4 - Leaflet (non-fiction)

Y5/6 – Emperor penguins JC (non-fiction)
Y5/6 - Balanced Argument – (non-fiction)

History

Explorers to the Arctic and Antarctic circles.



P.S.H.E

VIP's



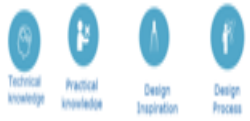
Geography

Identify latitude, longitude, Equator, hemispheres, tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic circle, Greenwich Meridian, time zones.



DT

Food technology – smoothies using frozen ingredients
Making heathy ice lollies



Science

Y4- States of matter

Y6 – Evolution and Inheritance



Computing

Y3 - Connecting computers - Identify that digital devices have inputs, processes, and outputs, and how devices can be connected to make networks.
Y5 - Systems and searching - Recognising IT systems in the world and how some can enable
searching on the internet.



RE

Y3/4 – 3.3 Worship and Sacred Places – Where, why and how people around Nottingham / Lincoln worship.
Christmas- Journeys- Mary's Milestones

Y5/6 – 6.1 Teachings: Wisdom and Authority. What do sacred texts say about God. Christmas – Incarnation: God becoming Human



P.E

Circuit training
Invasion games - Sports Provider



Music

Charanga – Glockenspiel Stage 1

