



# 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,

As promised, here is the second instalment!

### **Thank you...**

...to you all from everyone at Elton, for all your beautiful cards, gifts and messages of thanks at the end of the last academic year. We would like you all to know that we all consider ourselves well and truly spoilt. We are extremely lucky to work with your children and we do value your support and the positive relationships we have with you. Your trust and faith in us is very much appreciated, and as we've all worked in other schools before, it's something we never take for granted!

### **Staffing**

Just a reminder that Jane Murphy is reducing her hours this year so that she gets more time to spend with her family. She will be the class teacher for Year 4/5 (St Etheldreda) on Monday and Tuesday, and again on Wednesday mornings. St Etheldreda will then have PE with Callum on Wednesday afternoon. Their Thursdays and Fridays will be with Rebecca Hook, who became a familiar face in school last year. We are delighted and very fortunate to have her with us. Teaching assistants have been allocated a “base” from which they start the year, however effective deployment of TAs (and best practice) is to put them in areas where they are needed, rather than “one per class”. This means that for some subjects, a particular class may need more support, or specific groups of pupils may require additional interventions. As children are not “linear”, the demand for need changes throughout the year (and often, throughout the term, or even a week!)

The year therefore, will begin as follows:

EYFS (St John)	Lisa Beasley	Bev Seymour/ Nikki Allen
Y1 (St Francis)	Michelle Mytton	Rach Muggleton/ Nikki Allen
Y2 (St Peter)	Jo Steenkamp	Nikki Yassini
Y3/4(St Christopher)	Hanna Hannam	Laura Swales/Faye Logan
Y4/5 (St Etheldreda)	Jane Murphy/Rebecca Hook	Laura Swales/Faye Logan
Y6 (Edith Cavell)	Andrew Shaw	Sally Barrows

### **Meet the Teacher**

Teachers will be around after school on the following dates to say hello, and to answer any questions you may have, or listen to anything you would like to share: Monday 08/09/25 – Year 2, Year 4/5 and Year 6, Wednesday 10/09/25 – EYFS, Y1 and Y3/4. This is an informal hour (until 4:30), without any agenda, and there is no set time to arrive or leave - it's just an opportunity for a start of term chat!

### **Classrooms**

You may recall that last year we had issues with our boilers. We are delighted to say that we have now received funding from the diocese for the boilers to be replaced. However, the main boiler room in the school is in an outhouse, accessible only through the Year 3/4 classroom. In order for the work to go ahead in the least disruptive manner, we have made the following temporary arrangements, until the new boiler system has been installed:

- Year 3/4 children will be based in the Year 1 classroom
- Year 1 children will be based in the hall. This will be a fantastic opportunity to allow them to transition from EYFS to Y1 with a focus on more directed activities and teaching and learning opportunities, but still with lots of space to play, be physically active, and develop important social and communication skills

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The work has a 3-4 week lead in time, but we felt it would be least disruptive to set up the respective classrooms at the start of the term. The work itself should take around 6-8 weeks, so with a fair wind and lots of luck, we should have functioning radiators by the time we need them!

### **School Focus**

One of our points of focus this year is on encouraging children to be independent, both as learners in the classroom and as proactive members of a community. I will explain to children our expectations of what this will look like in school and report back to you in a separate letter later in the term, but in the meantime would ask you please to support us, and your child's development, by doing the following:

- Naming all items of uniform, (including coats, wellies, spare shoes etc) and checking after each wash that the name is still legible - this helps children to be responsible for their own belongings and to find them independently
- Reminding children to bring in the items they need each day (book bag, reading book, water bottle etc) - this helps them to form good habits
- Asking children to carry their own book bags and coats if they are capable (ie have two arms☺)
- Practising zipping up coats, putting on gloves and fastening shoes etc at home
- Practising good table manners, including using a knife and fork correctly (we will still help them to cut up any food they find tricky, but it would be good to see them have a go!)

These small things will help us at school, and will help you at home too. Although many children are perfectly capable of doing most of these tasks independently, they (like many of us) choose not to do things if there is someone around willing to do it for them. We would like to really focus on making your children independent and responsible individuals who will be ready for the next stage of their education, whether that be a new Key Stage, or a different school.

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow... don't forget a named coat/waterproof – we'll be outside whenever it's raining!

Yours sincerely

**Claire Arnold**  
**Headteacher**