



# ELTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**“LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU”**

**FRIENDSHIP**

**TRUST**

**JUSTICE**

**ENDURANCE**

**COMPASSION**

**KOINONIA**

Welcome back.

Firstly, we hope that you all had a nice Christmas and that the children are rested and ready to start again! Secondly, we would like to thank you all for the lovely Christmas gifts you gave us, they were much appreciated.

### Our Big Question

Our big question this term will be Is the world fair for everyone? We will be focusing on children around the world, how they live and how it compares to how we live. The concept we will explore is equality. Within RE we will be focusing on how we can look after God’s wonderful world. To help teach your child good stewardship you can make connections with nature, for example, listen to bird songs, take pictures of flowers, go on a guided bird walk or give them their own garden space. You can also get them involved in sorting your recycling waste and composting waste.

In school we will begin by looking at maps and where we are on the map and what landscapes are around us before ‘travelling’ the world to see what life is like in other countries. To support this topic, we will be reading the following books:

- Me on a Map by Joan Sweeney.
- This is How We Do It by Matt Lamothe
- One Day so Many Ways by Laura Hall

To help us with this topic we appreciate it if you would send in photos. We would like photos of your house and of different places you have visited (UK and international), we would like to display these in the classroom. It would also be interesting to know if you have family members living in other countries, if you do let us know and we might be able to look at life in these countries.

In maths, most of us will be working with numbers to ten, recognising, carefully counting and ordering these numbers and extending ourselves by becoming familiar with our teen numbers. We will continue to use 2D and 3D shapes to build with and will be talking about the names and using mathematical language to talk about the properties of these shapes. We will also use everyday language in the measurement of length, height and capacities.

### Reading and Homework

We will continue to send home the sounds that we learn each week. This is being sent home via email. If you have any problems with the homework, please let me know as soon as possible.

You should also read the school reading book, which is issued online, with your child at least three times over the two weeks (we will issue at least one book every 2 weeks). We would also love to hear about all the other reading that you do together, reading anything counts! You can read comics, cereal packets, road signs, or find out information together on the internet. We will provide reading-for-pleasure books for your child to take. I know there weren’t many takers last term, so I will remind the children more often that they can take these home for you to share together.

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### Visits

During this term we hope to go on many walks through the village (mud permitting). We will spend time becoming familiar with our local environment and looking at maps of the village, we might even try to make some maps of our own.

**Look out, look out! There's a tiger about!** We are in the process of booking a hands-on and fun-packed trip to Peterborough Museum for a themed day based upon the book 'The Tiger who came to Tea'. We will be accompanied by year one and two and more details will be with you very shortly!

### Mornings

As part of getting your child ready for year 1 and coming into school on their own we would ask that you start encouraging children to come into school on their own. We know that this can be daunting so understand if you need to take a graduated approach and use the beginning of term to start chatting about coming in on their own, this could be then followed by choosing a couple of days that they come independently building up to every day. If you feel that this may cause any problems then please feel free to chat to us.

### Independence

It is important that your child becomes as independent as possible in order to be ready for year 1 during which the expectations are that your child is able to look after themselves (obviously in an age-appropriate way) and as such we would ask that you continue to work with your child on being as independent as possible. They should be able to independently deal with their clothing, for example zipping up coats, taking jumpers on and off, using buttons independently and keeping clothing in a safe place that they remember! They will also need to be confident in cutting their own food at lunchtime or opening packets within lunchboxes. We would be grateful if you could practise these skills at home.

### Junk Modelling

Thanks for the supplies last term. Please continue to send us your 'rubbish': boxes, tubes, corks.

As always, please feel free to talk to me about how your child is getting on at school. I am usually outside after or before school but I am aware that these times can be busy so if there is anything you would like to discuss and this is not an appropriate time you can call the school office or email me [lbeasley@elton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:lbeasley@elton.cambs.sch.uk) to arrange something at a less busy and public time.

The EYFS team: Lisa, Bev and Nikki