



EAST LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUTUMN HALF TERM NEWSLETTER

KEY DATES

Monday 8 January 2024
Spring Term begins for all years.

Monday 15 January 2024
Deadline for Reception Applications 2024

Monday 15 January 2024
Reception Parent Workshop
8:15 & 1:40

Tuesday 16 January 2024
Year 1 Parent Workshop
8:15 & 1:40

Wednesday 17 January 2024
Year 3 Parent Workshop
8:15 & 1:40

Thursday 18 January 2024
Year 4 Parent Workshop
8:15 & 1:40



'Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great start to the academic year and the Autumn Term is now drawing to a close. It is wonderful to see our pupils eagerly attending school every day, with their enthusiasm for education and learning guiding the way.

The Autumn Term is always a busy one, and one which has been filled with many exciting educational opportunities for our children. Earlier in the term, the Year 2 children visited an exhibition about The Great Fire of London, the Year 3 pupils visited the orchestra and the Year 1 children ventured to the Unicorn Theatre. These trips not only enhance pupils' educational diet, but also provide enrichment to personal development and character. It is lovely to see so many of our pupils excited and animated when going on a school trip!

Towards the end of the term, the ELPS choir visited Coplands Residential Home. This was an opportunity for pupils to sing to the elderly residing at this home. Being part of a shared community is a very important aspect of education and character development. Ventures such as this allow our pupils to experience the joy and satisfaction of giving back to the wider community.

As always, reading has been a top priority across our school. Many of the children continue to tick off the recommended reading books and collect certificates for doing so. It is vital that reading happens at every given opportunity. It is only through reading a wide range of genres and themes that children can expand their vocabulary knowledge and improve their accuracy, speed and stamina. I often see our children taking books out to break time and finding even just a couple of minutes to read the next few pages or finish that all important chapter. This is a great sight to see!

When walking from lesson to lesson, I can see the incredibly high standards of work that our children are producing. Children are actively engaged in learning and demonstrate great enthusiasm for education. To maintain our exceptionally high standards, it is paramount that all homework is completed weekly, including daily reading. Homework contributes to the learning journey of a child and enables our pupils to consolidate their learning at home. It is great to see so many parents supporting their child's education at home.

As well as our consistent academic success, it is important that our children have the opportunity to enrich their education with wider curriculum offers. Currently we have many extra-curricular clubs happening at ELPS; these clubs include chess, magic maths, Lamda and Judo. The children often express their excitement for our clubs. Judo continues to be one of our most popular clubs offered, and it has been impressive to see the moves our children have been capable of with expert tuition!

I would like to take the opportunity to say farewell to Ms Osei. She has been a wonderful welfare assistant and will be hugely missed by ELPS. We wish her every success for her future journey into nursing. We also welcome Mr Veater to our leadership team, who will be joining us in January as a new Assistant Headteacher.

I thank all parents for your continued support and dedication to your child's education.

It has been great to see so many wonderful Christmas performances but please be reminded that any photographs or videos taken must not be shared on social media.

Lastly, from all the staff at ELPS, we would like to wish you a very restful break and happy new year. We look forward to what 2024 has to offer.

Kind regards,
Ms Siddiqui

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KEY DATES

Friday 19 January
2024
Year 5 Parent Work-
shop
8:15 & 1:40

Monday 29 January
Year 4 Trip- Royal
Courts of Justice

Tuesday 30th January
Reception Trip-
Unicorn Theatre

Tuesday 6 February
Year 2 Parent Work-
shop
8:15 & 1:40

Wednesday 7 Febru-
ary
Year 6 Parent Work-
shop
8:15 & 1:40

Monday, 12th February
to Friday,
16th February
Half Term

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

We are proud of our broad and diverse curriculum, as seen by our carefully chosen topics for study during Black History Month. Pupils learnt about significant black individuals that lived within the eras and topics they are studying. Within Year 1, pupils have been learning about inventors. Within this topic, they focused on Marie Van Brittan Brown, an African American nurse and inventor, who created the video home security system.

In Year 3, children learnt about John Blanke, a royal trumpeter, who performed in the courts of Henry VII and Henry VIII. In Year 4, pupils explored the work of the architect David Adjaye and linked his work with their knowledge of Roman architecture. In Year 5, children explored the life of the pharaoh Ahmose Nefertari and used their existing knowledge of Tutankhamun, when engaging with artefacts from her tomb.

Pupils were incredibly engaged when learning these topics and our Black History Month lessons are an important part of our History curriculum.

EYFS Postman Visit

On 18th December, the Reception year group welcomed a special visitor – a local postman- who offered insights into his crucial role. Students were eager to learn more about a postal worker's responsibilities. We asked lots of interesting questions about the postman's routine about early wake-up times, the busy Christmas period, the challenges of locating house numbers, and the logistics of handling oversized parcels. This engaging session not only fuelled the children's curiosity, but also connected their classroom activities and curriculum with the real-world context. Thank you to parents who are supporting us with our 'People who help us' enrichment activities for Reception. If you have a job that you would like to share more information about, please get in touch with us!



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*"Injustice anywhere is
a threat to justice
everywhere. "*

Martin Luther King

Children in Need

On Friday, 13th November, East Lane Primary School embraced the spirit of charity and comfort as they hosted a heart warming Children in Need Pyjama Day. The school grounds buzzed with excitement as children and teachers donned their cosiest pyjamas, onesies, and sleepwear, all in support of Children in Need. Laughter and smiles filled the classrooms as students learnt about the importance of raising money for a good cause. The event not only raised funds for Children in Need but also taught the valuable lesson of empathy and a sense of community, making a difference in the lives of others. East Lane Primary raised a total of £639.17 - well done all!



Volunteers

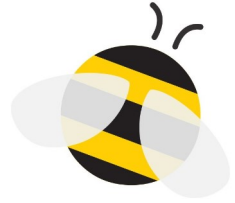
Year 12 students from Wembley High Technology College have become invaluable mentors, bringing a positive impact to our primary school by dedicating their time to support our young learners to read. Through one-to-one sessions. These senior students are not only helping improve reading skills but also serve as role models, showcasing the joy and benefits of literacy. This cross-generational connection has helped to build confidence, nurture empathy, and forge strong bonds within our school community. Year 12 students have truly become champions of literacy and we look forward to welcoming them back after the Christmas holidays. Thank you Year 12s and to all the staff at WHTC who have supported this initiative!



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Spelling Bee and House Teams



This half term, children within KS2 took part in their first House Team Competition. All pupils were extremely excited and eager to compete in the Spelling Bee. After some highly competitive qualifying rounds and finals, we are pleased to announce our four winners. Congratulations to Raaghavi, Khalifa, Siddhant and Deveshi.

The top five Spellers from each year group were announced in Assemblies, and teammates and classmates celebrated their peers' victories. The Spelling Bee was a great success and will be a permanent fixture on our House Team Competition Schedule.

Thank you to all the parents who helped their children prepare for the Spelling Bees and I hope you are as excited as we are for future House Team competitions. They will continue to run throughout the year and will cover a wide range of topics and subjects, giving all children across the school the opportunity to succeed. The next House Team Competition will be announced shortly after the pupils return for the Spring term.

Spelling Bee Results			
	3 rd Place	2 nd Place	1 st Place
Year 3	Arfaan Shaikh (3.2)	Khushali Mehta (3.1)	Raaghavi Thusyanthan (3.1)
Year 4	Aayan Bokhari (4.2)	Akshay Angaluri (4.1)	Khalifa Rahman (4.2)
Year 5	Sajeesh Thusyanthan (5.2)	Ayub Hussein (5.3)	Siddhant Sharma (5.1)
Year 6	Hassan Qaisar (6.2), Vansh Patel (6.2), Joshua Konesharajah (6.2)	Rutvik Soman (6.1)	Deveshi Thakker (6.1)



Unfortunately one pupil was absent for the picture. Nevertheless, a very big well done!

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Free Swimming During All School Holidays:

We would like to remind all ELPS pupils and families that Vale Farm Sports Centre and Willesden Sports Centre both offer **free public swimming during school holidays** (excluding Bank Holidays) for all children under the age of 16 who live in the Borough of Brent. Children Swim for Free between 11am and 4pm Monday to Friday during school holidays (specific timings of swim sessions can be found on www.everyoneactive.com). To take advantage of this amazing opportunity you must register at <https://joinonline.everyoneactive.com/memberships> by selecting Vale Farm Sports Centre, then Pay As You Go. You must provide your contact details and then finalise your registration, at which point you will be issued with a Free Card which must be shown each time you want to enjoy a free swim.



We encourage all ELPS pupils and families to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity and enjoy some free swimming over the school holidays!

Superstar Swimmers in 5.2:

Pupils in 5.2 have been attending swimming lessons at Vale Farm Sports Centre since September and completed their school swimming lessons at the end of Autumn Term. Well done to all 5.2 pupils for completing their school swimming lessons! ELPS would like to recognise the superstar swimming abilities of pupils in 5.2 who successfully demonstrated the ability to swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres, using a range of strokes effectively (e.g. front crawl, backstroke, breaststroke) and perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations:

Superstar Swimmers in 5.2
Shenali
Meha
Amruti
Aryah
Aviella
Nency
Dev

Each of these pupils will be awarded a special Superstar Swimming Award certificate in Assembly to celebrate their fantastic swimming throughout Autumn Term! A special congratulations goes out to Meha for being able to swim not only 25 metres, but 50 metres – a truly outstanding accomplishment! We look forward to celebrating the superstar swimmers in 5.3 and 5.1 when their swimming lessons conclude at the end of Spring Term and Summer Term respectively. We encourage ELPS pupils in all Year Groups to enrol in swimming lessons and practise their swimming skills as much as possible outside of school so that they are well-prepared for their school swimming lessons.

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TFL Travel for Life



ELPS are embarking on an exciting journey to achieving gold status for TFL (Transport for London) Travel for Life. The Travel for Life programme is an accreditation, involving over a 100,000 London primary schools, given by TFL based on a number of activities a school completes. The activities are based on the following:

- reducing congestion
- improving road safety
- improving health and wellbeing

ELPS children have been spoken to about this programme and in January elections will begin for children to become a TFL Travel for Life ambassador for their year group. This exciting role will allow children to support our aims to become a gold standard TFL school. Watch this space, as there soon will be a Walk-to-School challenge.

Year 1- Trip to the Unicorn Theatre

Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic winter treat at the Unicorn Theatre at London Bridge. They watched 'The Wolf, the Duck and the Mouse' in a show that captivated their attention and imagination. The children were impeccably behaved throughout and were even retelling the story on their journey back to school.



ELPS Christmas Parent Helpers

A massive thank you to the wonderful parents who volunteered their time to make this holiday season extra special! On 18th December, parents kindly helped wrap up all our Christmas presents for our students – thank you so much for all your support!



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40 Recommended Reading Challenge

We are thrilled to share the incredible achievements of our young readers here at East Lane Primary School. As part of our 40 Recommended Reading Challenge, our students have embraced the joy of diving into books and their dedication to reading has been remarkable. We would like to congratulate all students who have participated in this reading challenge. Furthermore, we would like to extend a special congratulations to the pupils below who have stood out for their exceptional dedication and enthusiasm towards reading. Well done!

The year group with the greatest total of books read	Year 3	
The class with the greatest total of books read	3.1	
The pupil with the greatest total of books read in each year group	Reception	Nilan Mouli & Rebeca Juravle
	Year 1	Jiyana Purohit & Hana Ashgar
	Year 2	Faatima Haider
	Year 3	Raiyah-Iman Ahipeaud
	Year 4	Oscar Pascual Hernandez
	Year 5	Meha Assani
	Year 6	Shayna Mistry

As parents, your support and encouragement have played a significant role in nurturing this love for reading in our students. Let's continue to foster a culture of reading, exploration and imagination among our children.

Reading Speed

We're excited to share with you our renewed focus on reading speed here at East Lane Primary School. While we've always emphasized the joy and importance of reading, we're now highlighting the significance of reading speed in aiding our students' overall reading skills. Rapid and fluent reading isn't just about finishing books quickly; it's a vital skill that enables comprehension, boosts confidence and enhances overall literacy development. We're thrilled to recognise the incredible progress our students have already made in this area and we encourage parents to continue supporting this progress at home through daily reading. In the coming weeks, we will be introducing fun challenges and rewarding pupils with badges for reaching the reading speed target for their year group. These targets can be found in the table below. Happy reading!

Year Group	Reading Speed Target
Reception	Green Book Stage
Year 1	80 words per minute
Year 2	100 words per minute
Year 3	120 words per minute
Year 4	130 words per minute
Year 5	140 words per minute
Year 6	150 words per minute



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Early Years

Within Early Years, we have focused on bringing one element of the students' learning to life every term. These curriculum enrichment opportunities and role play contribute to a well-rounded early years education, promoting not only academic growth but also the development of essential life skills and cultural understanding in our young learners. They help to boost their confidence and experience of rich cultural capital experiences, encouraging students to express themselves freely and creatively. Listening skills are also cultivated as they listen to instructions, stories and partake in team activities. In the first half term, we hosted the Tiger's Tea Party based on our Literacy text 'The Tiger who came to Tea' in which students made their own jam sandwiches, had a picnic together and had a special visit from the Tiger himself (thank you Mr Adams!). In the second half term reception students gathered to mark the 5th birthday of our beloved phonics character - Read Write Inc's Fred the Frog. Fred plays a crucial role in helping young learners blend phonics sounds and embark on their reading journey. The afternoon was filled with engaging activities. Children enjoyed lively party games, cut Fred's special birthday cake (creatively designed by the staff), and enjoyed playing pass the parcel. Adding a creative touch, the students also decorated their own cupcakes and enjoyed eating these as part of the afternoon. Please encourage your children to continue to do their daily phonics and reading at home.



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Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 8th December, East Lane Primary School radiated festive cheer as it celebrated Christmas Jumper Day with an abundance of Christmas spirit. Students and staff alike adorned themselves in an array of jolly, colourful Christmas jumpers, each one more creative and sparkly than the last. This was followed by a fantastic array of performances, from Reception performing a rendition of 'We're going on an Elf Hunt' to poems performed by Year 4 and a play performed by Year 5. Thank you to all parents who came to support us and we hope you enjoyed our performances.



Christmas Performances

We are delighted to share the joyous success of our recent Christmas plays, where our talented students showcased their acting, singing, and musical prowess. The festive performances were nothing short of excellent, leaving parents and audience members thoroughly entertained. The plays featured a delightful mix of music, acting, and singing that truly captured the essence of the season. The enthusiasm and dedication of our young performers was evident in every note sung and every line delivered. A heartfelt thank you to our students for their outstanding efforts, as well as to our dedicated teachers and staff for their hard work in bringing these productions to life. The holiday spirit was truly alive and well at ELPS, making it a memorable and magical experience for everyone involved.



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Attendance

Attendance Expectations

At East Lane Primary we recognise that attending school regularly and on time has a positive impact on learning, progress and therefore the best life chances for our students.

Excellent attendance and punctuality is the key for our students' success. Therefore, we must ensure that attendance and punctuality are the highest they possibly can be in order to prepare our students for their future adult life. In line with the Government and Local Authority Guidelines, we expect all our students to maintain an attendance level of 95% and above.

It is the responsibility of everyone in our school community – parents, staff, students and governors to ensure they achieve this. Therefore, we monitor and review the attendance of all our students constantly. We encourage excellent attendance and punctuality for all students, by offering an environment in which our students feel valued and part of the school community.

Attendance Class Leader board for Autumn Term

Class	Percentage
4.1	97.80%
1.1	97.74%
2.2	97.70%
2.1	97.58%
3.4	96.78%
6.2	96.74%
2.3	96.52%
3.1	96.46%
5.3	95.35%
3.3	95.14%
6.3	95.13%
6.1	95%



Congratulations to 4.1 for leading the attendance leader board for the Autumn term.

SIMS

The SIMS parent app has now been launched and you have received a step by step guide on how to access this. Should you experience any technical difficulties, please email reception@elps.co.uk. Please bear with us during this transitional phase whilst we work to resolve any recurring issues.

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Safeguarding

Staying safe during the Christmas period

Keeping children safe takes on added importance during holiday periods. Children naturally are exposed to more risks than would whilst learning at school. A guide to keeping children safe (below) during the Christmas period will inform you of all of the risks, as well as how parents and carers can counter these risks.

It's Christmas Time – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

It's Christmas Time!



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period. Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with


















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Safeguarding (continued)

Minimum Age for social media applications

Parents and carers, please note that unguarded social media use poses considerable risks to children. Please find below minimum age for the major social media platforms.

13+		16+	
 Facebook	 Snapchat	 WhatsApp	
 Instagram	 Twitter	17+	18+
 TikTok	 Kik	 Sarahah	 MeetMe
 YouNow	 Yubo	 YOLO	 LiveMe
 House Party	 Monkey		

Medication

A polite reminder that we will only accept prescribed medication for students in school.

We do not accept any over the counter medication. All parents who wish to send in medication must make sure it is in a clear Ziplock bag, prescribed in the child's name and will need to sign a form in reception. Thank you for your cooperation.



MEDICINE

EAST LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Mathletics Year Group Leader board

Year Group	Activity Points	Skills Quest	Live Points	Total Points	Ranking
Year 3	281320	84380	51950	417650	1 st
Year 1	279560	0	12083	291643	2 nd
Year 2	205300	81100	6457	292857	3 rd
Year 4	197950	31790	5340	235080	4 th
Year 6	158890	10710	13315	182915	5 th
Year 5	141260	10820	4269	156349	6 th

Congratulations to Year 3 for leading the scoreboard.



Mathletics Champions

Name	Class	Total Score	Position
Khalifa Rahman	4.2	43995	1 st
Khushali Mehta	3.1	49019	2 nd
Samim Akbari	4.2	38721	3 rd
Buffon Cardozo	3.2	35558	4 th
Manya Patel	3.2	34339	5 th
Jiyan Patel	5.2	31835	6 th
Viyana Patel	1.1	30897	7 th
Monika Goraniya	6.1	27990	8 th
Arpit Goraniya	3.1	23540	9 th
Raihan Mufeez	3.3	25369	10 th

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Extracurricular Activities Autumn

The following after school clubs and lunchtime clubs will be taking place in the Spring term from the second week back, Monday 15th January from 2:40pm until 3:40pm and the extended after school club will run until 5pm.

Information regarding booster clubs will be released in the new term.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY								
ASSEMBLY HALL	▪ Judo- Y3-Y4	▪ Contemporary Dance- R-Y6	▪ Judo- Y5-Y6	▪ Ballet- R-Y6	▪ Judo- R-Y2								
MUGA	▪ Football- R- Y3	▪ Football- Y4-Y6	▪ Football- R- Y3	▪ Football- Y4-Y6									
DINING HALL	▪ Extended ASC	▪ Extended ASC	▪ Extended ASC	▪ Extended ASC	▪ Extended ASC								
PLAYGROUND					▪ Cricket -R-Y6 ▪ Tennis- R-Y6								
CLASSROOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chess (3.2) ▪ Mandarin- Year 3 (Science Lab Block B) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keyboard -Year 5 (Music room) ▪ Mandarin- Year 4 (Science Lab Block B) ▪ ICT – Y2-Y3 (Block A ICT Suite) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chess (3.2) ▪ Mandarin- Year 5 (Science Lab Block C) ▪ LAMDA (Class 2.1/2.3) ▪ Choir- Year 4-6 (Music Room) ▪ ICT – Y2-Y3 (Block A ICT Suite) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Magical Maths <table border="1" data-bbox="1023 1272 1262 1379"> <tr> <td>Reception and Year 1</td> <td>1.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 2</td> <td>2.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 3 and 4</td> <td>3.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 5 and 6</td> <td>5.1</td> </tr> </table> ▪ Mandarin- Year 6 (Science Lab Block C) ▪ LAMDA (Class 2.1/2.3) 	Reception and Year 1	1.1	Year 2	2.1	Year 3 and 4	3.1	Year 5 and 6	5.1	
Reception and Year 1	1.1												
Year 2	2.1												
Year 3 and 4	3.1												
Year 5 and 6	5.1												
LUNCHTIME CLUB	▪ Mandarin- Year 3 (Science Lab Block B)	▪ Mandarin- Year 4 (Science Lab Block B)	▪ Mandarin- Year 5 (Science Lab Block C)	▪ Mandarin- Year 6 (Science Lab Block C)									

For more information and to book your place on an after school club, please visit the website where links/PDF attachments are available or refer to your emails.

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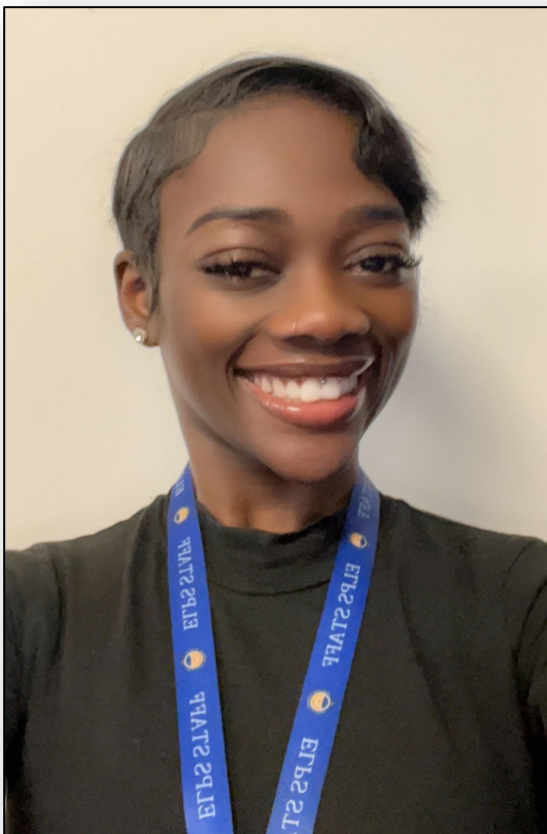
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A Heartfelt Farewell

It is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to a cherished member of our ELPS family, Miss Osei, who has played an instrumental role as our dedicated Welfare Officer. Miss Osei has been a beacon of care and support for all our children, ensuring their well-being and fostering a nurturing environment at our school. Miss Osei's time with us has been marked by her unwavering commitment, compassion, and the genuine love she has showered upon our students. We are immensely grateful for the positive impact she has had on the children and we wish her the best of luck as she embarks on a promising journey to pursue her nursing career.

We are pleased to announce that Miss Malik, our receptionist, will be stepping into the role left by Miss Osei. Over the past few weeks, Miss Malik has worked closely with Miss Osei to ensure a smooth handover. Her dedication and commitment to the well-being of our students has already been evident, and she has built excellent relationships with the children.



I would like to thank all the children for making my year. It has been a pleasure working at ELPS. I will miss all the lovely little faces I see each day and I wish everyone the best and a lovely Christmas!