

# FAMILY UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2025



Here's what is happening at Ellen Tinkham until the end of the term:

**w/c 10<sup>th</sup> November - Multi-Faith Week**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November - Meet the new Head of College, Kate Bromage**

College families are invited to an informal "meet and greet" with Kate and Emily starting at 10 am for an hour. Pop in to say hello and enjoy a refreshment.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November - Children In Need Day**

Students to wear non-uniform or something colourful and spotty! If you would like to make a donation, please send some cash in an envelope or donate via the Gateway app.

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November - PTFA Meeting**

The meeting starts at 10 am at Ellen Tinkham College, Wayside Crescent. We look forward to seeing you there! The focus of the meeting is to confirm the plans for the Christmas Fayres and think ahead to the Spring Term activities!

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November - Meet the new Head of College, Kate Bromage**

A chance for our working families to pop in and say hello to Kate and Emily between 5-6 pm.

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November - Early Years' Parents Evening at Hollow Lane**

Invitation letters have been sent to selected families. If you would like an appointment, please book a time slot with your Class Teacher.

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November - "Transitions"**

Transitions for our children can be tricky, especially for those starting school for the first time, or moving to a new classroom with a new teacher after the summer break. We invite you to visit on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November to meet with either Katy Bradley or Kate Bromage, to share your experiences on transitions. Thinking back to the summer term and September - what went well with regards your child's transition? What could we do to make the experience for your child and your family even better next year?

Hollow Lane = All our primary families are invited into school at 10.30 am to meet with Katy Bradley.

Wayside Crescent = Kate Bromage will be welcoming secondary / Sixth Form families to the College at 2 pm.

This event is open to everyone to come along. We hope to see you there!

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November - Occasional Day - Closed**

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## **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December - KS3 Family Celebration**

All our Lower Seniors families are invited to join us in the afternoon at the College for a Christmas Celebration! Pencil in the date and we'll confirm the timings soon!

## **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Phase 1 Phonics Family Workshop from 12.45 pm**

Invites will be sent to selected Hollow Lane families, offering you the opportunity to come into school and meet with Katie Greenhough and Lucy Hardacre. Katie and Lucy will be chatting with you about our phonics and reading education, and sharing handy hints and tips for reading at home. Invites to selected families will arrive via email.

## **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Early Years and Key Stage 1 Family Afternoon**

The classes of Ladybirds, Dragonflies, Rabbits, Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes look forward to seeing their families from 1.45 pm. Families are invited to visit the class and spend time making a lovely Christmas decoration with your child to take home.

## **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December - College Christmas Fayre**

Our busy and wonderful College Christmas Fayre starts at 10.30 am and runs until 11.45 am. As usual, our students will be on hand to sell the delightful arts and crafts they have made. Raffle tickets will be coming home soon (if you haven't already received them!). The raffle draw will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December so if you are able to make a donation of a prize or two, the PTFA would be very grateful. Thank you.

## **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Key Stage 2 Family Event**

Something special is happening! On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December, families of our Key Stage 2 classes at Hollow Lane are invited to join us in school early afternoon to watch a special performance from the Makaton Choir. After this, you can spend some time in your child's class. The Makaton Choir have performed at Hollow Lane on a couple of occasions and our pupils thoroughly enjoy attending.

## **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December - KS3 hosting a Drivers & Escorts Mince Pie morning**

To say "thank you" for all their hard work, KS3 classes will be inviting the College Drivers and Escorts to a merry mince pie coffee morning.

## **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day**

Pupils, staff and visitors are invited, if they wish, to wear their fav Christmas Jumper or festive top into school and college.

## **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December - KS4 Family Event - Performances at Christmas**

In the afternoon, Seniors classes are inviting their families into College for some seasonal festive fun! More details to follow from the classes.

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## **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December - School Christmas Fayre**

Please join us from 1.30 pm at our School Christmas Fayre at Hollow Lane. Pupils will be helping to man their class tables which, no doubt, will be filled with special gifts for you to buy or games to play. Raffle tickets will be coming home soon (if you haven't already received them!). The raffle draw will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December so if you are able to make a donation of a prize or two, the PTFA would be very grateful. Thank you.

## **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Lunch Day**

Everyone can enjoy a delicious lunch, cooked by our wonderful Catering Teams!

## **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - College Christmas Panto**

Rumour has it that the College staff will once again, be performing a Christmas Panto to the College students in the afternoon. Oh yes they will ...

## **Christmas Presents**

Although it is a very busy time of year for Elves, fingers crossed they will have time to create a special Christmas Grotto at the school for our Hollow Lane pupils. Christmas Presents, funded by the PTFA, will be handed out as part of this exciting experience.

All our students at the College and Sixth Form will also receive a Christmas gift too, courtesy of the PTFA. Thank you to our families and friends for all your support over the year to help make this happen.

## **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Sixth Form Applications deadline (Year 11 families)**

Leading up to Year 11, conversations and meetings take place about a student's future for their post 16 education. It may be that Ellen Tinkham is not the best setting for their continued education and if so, there are many other provisions and options available. However, if remaining at Ellen Tinkham and moving into our Sixth Form dept is in the best interests of your Year 11 young person, we need the application form to be completed and returned by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

## **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Last Day of the Autumn Term**

## **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - First Day of the Spring Term**