



Elmlea Schools' Trust

Newsletter Issue 8

Thursday 22nd October

Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of an eight week term we can reflect on as such a positive term for all of our children, who adjusted so well to the return to full time schooling and to the demands of being back in school. We all feel so proud of them and we have told them they should feel very proud of themselves too for all they have achieved.

However, your children are now very tired and everyone, staff and children included are ready for a change of pace and routine. Whatever you are able to do this half term, we hope you can enjoy time together as a family and we look forward to seeing the children back, refreshed and ready for school on the 2nd November.

Critical Keyworker Childcare

We really sincerely hope that our schools are not closed again. However, as this is not our decision to make, as a school we do need to be prepared for this eventuality.

In order to prepare we need to again compile a list of children whose parents require critical keyworker childcare. As before we would ask that you only request critical key worker childcare if you have no other options at home on your working days. Last lockdown parents really worked with us on this and the number of children coming into school was manageable.

If you meet the criteria ([click this link to check](#)) to be considered a keyworker and require critical childcare please [complete the survey](#).

If your child attended school during lockdown as they were considered vulnerable, they will still be on our register and eligible to attend keyworker childcare.

Foodbank

Thank you so much for all the items you have donated to the foodbank this week. The tables have been groaning under the weight of all the children have brought in, you have been so generous. Your donations will be much appreciated and make such a difference to the foodbank and will support local families experiencing very tough times.



Staffing Update

This week we are saying goodbye to Mrs Fehily who for many years has supported the children of Elmlea Infants' School. Mrs Fehily is retiring to spend more time with her family but hopes to return as a volunteer when she is able to. We are so grateful for all she has given to the children and families across the years and we wish her a very happy retirement.

We currently have a vacancy for a mid-morning LSA in our Infants' School, details can be [found here](#).

Mrs Bullock who has worked in our Junior School office is also leaving us this week to spend more time caring for her family. Mrs Bullock has been a friendly face at the window of the Junior School Office and we send our best wishes to Mrs Bullock and her family for the coming months.

Miss Cooke is also leaving us this week to begin her maternity leave. Miss Cooke has taught year 4 for several years and has most recently been supporting year 3 with their catch-up provision. We wish Miss Cooke a restful time until baby arrives and then a very happy maternity leave as she enjoys those special first months together with her baby.

Aspens Select

We are delighted to share with you the [new updated Aspens menu](#) for after half term.

Please note that **Aspens will be cancelling all existing orders after the 2 November, so over half term parents must therefore reorder any meals previously ordered.** This is to avoid any confusion in meal choice for your child in Term 2.

Many thanks for your support in this.

Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher

Reminder	Y6 Transition	Please be reminded that the deadline for Y6 transition is 31st October
Reminder	Infant Lunches	On our return on the 2 nd November the Infants' menu will be the Week 1 choices.
Reminder	Children In Need	Wear something spotty! £1 Contribution to Children In Need Friday 13th November
Reminder	Term 2	Term 2 begins on Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th December. For term dates visit our website.
Reminder	Lunch Orders	Please remember to book your child's school lunch through the Aspens Select Website
Action Required	Data Collection Form	Please return the data collection on Monday 2nd November

Music - Years 5 and 6

It has been great to see the children learning so much about different periods within Classical music in their lessons this half term. In doing so they have developed their Listening and Appraising skills, recognised instrumental sounds and consolidated knowledge of key musical terminology.



After Half Term we will be holding instrumental/vocal demonstration lessons in which those children who play an instrument are invited to perform a piece. They should use the break to practice and refine a piece of their choosing and bring their instrument into school on the day of their music lesson. (It can be stored in the year group cupboard.) If they require an accompaniment they should bring the sheet music into school, or a backing track. I look forward to watching the children perform in the week beginning 2nd November!

Mrs Parkes Music Co-ordinator (KS2)

Sports News

Virtual Indoor Athletics Games

Another great week of children taking part in the speed bounce challenge where children jump sideways over a small obstacle as many times as they can in 20seconds. Congratulations to Isaac in 4H for achieving the highest Year 4 boy score across all the other participation North Bristol Schools. A huge well done to everyone who took part in their PE lessons and congratulations to the following children who achieved the top score in their year groups;

Year 3: Zayd 3W, Rhodri 3G, April 3S, Tansy 3W

Year 4: Elsie 4H

Year 5: George 5B, Thomas 5B, Barnaby 5B, Sophie 5B

Year 6: Peter 6S, Alexa 6L

This week the children have been taking part in the chest push challenge and so these results will be posted in the first news letter back next term where the children will then be taking on the vertical jump challenge.



Bristol Sport Foundation Netball Development Hub

After a huge success this has had this term the organisers have increased the court space for next term in order to accommodate more children safely. Open to years 3 to years 6, please see the attached posters with information on booking your child's place for term 2 as well as a holiday camp opportunity.

[Netball Development Hub Poster](#), [Netball Holiday Poster](#)

Mrs Paterson, Head of PE and Sport

Children in Need



Across the Trust, we will be fundraising for Children in Need in the week 9th-13th November. The theme this year is Five to thrive, centred on the 5 Ways to Wellbeing. This links really well to the PSHE focus we have had across the Trust in Term 1.

There will be short teacher-led activities in school during the week and opportunities to be involved at home too with virtual bedtime stories and an at-home Bake Off.

On Friday 13th, children can wear their own clothes to school - perhaps incorporating the 'spotty' theme traditional associated with Children in Need.

More information about all of the activities and how to donate will be in the first newsletter of Term 2.

Mrs Bareau

Christmas Cards

It's that time of year again where your children have been busy doing their own Christmas designs for you to purchase as cards, mugs, coasters and gift tags. Order forms and sample cards will be sent home in your children's book bags today.

The costs are:

Pack of 12 cards £5

Mug £5 per mug

Coaster £2.50 per coaster

Pack of 6 gift tag labels £1.50

Payment will need to be made online through the below link. <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa>

If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact the infants' PTA and we can arrange an alternative method of payment, however online is preferred.

Payment and order forms must be received no later than Wednesday 4th November to ensure delivery before Christmas.

All proceeds go to the school. We hope you enjoy their designs!

**** Calling all detectives - Half term treasure hunt ****

Are you looking for a little adventure this half term? Well Bobby the Bristol Bear needs the help of some fearless detectives this half term to help him find his missing winter hat and scarf. Follow this link to pay Suggested donation of £2 to EISA and find details of how to download the treasure hunt <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa>.

The treasure hunt is roughly a 60 minute walk starting at Elmlea Infant School and will ask the kids to pick up clues along the way to solve the mystery. The experience will be socially distanced and COVID safe. All the kids who complete the walk will be entered into a prize draw! As fundraising is severely restricted this year by Coronavirus as we are unable to hold our normal gatherings or even distribute and sell goods in the way we normally do, so any additional contributions would also be gratefully received.

**** Easy Fundraising ****

Raise donations for Elmlea Infants School - Bristol whenever you shop online.

Easy fundraising turns your everyday online shopping into free donations for the school. Amazing! Genius! But how? Just start your online shopping journey first at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>, search for 'Elmlea Infants School - Bristol' in causes and register. Then search for retailers and you will be directed to the retailer website to shop as normal. Retailers then make a small donation to Elmlea to say thank you for the referral - no charge to you, but every penny counts for us. If you're anything like us, your online shopping skills will have increased exponentially this year with the lockdown, so we have high hopes that we're reaching out to the best of the best, of the best...happy shopping!

Elmlea Infant School Association



Year Group News

EYFS Curriculum Information

Please follow the link below to watch our '[EYFS Curriculum Information Video](#)'. This video details the different areas of the early years curriculum, what your child will be learning during their Reception year and how you can support at home.

Reception

We would like to thank you for your support as parents and carers during this first term at Elmlea. It has been wonderful to see the children settle so well into school life, learning new concepts and building friendships as the term has gone on. You will be receiving a termly letter shortly that details information about next term and links to the Curriculum Information Video.

Can we take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and restful half-term,

[Welcome Letter](#)

[Helping at Home Maths](#)

[Helping at Home Writing](#)

Many thanks, the Reception Team

Key Stage 1 Curriculum Information

Please follow the link below to watch our '[KS1 Curriculum Information Video](#)'. This video details how English is taught at Elmlea in years 1 and 2 and how you can help at home.

Year 1

We are so proud of Year 1 and how they have settled this term. They have worked very hard and need a well-deserved rest! This week we have been recapping counting backwards and forwards and comparing numbers. We finished off our Gruffalo topic by writing a description of the snake using lots of adjectives!

[Year 1 Welcome Letter](#)



Year 1 Team

Year 2

This week we have found out about Steve Backshall and compared his explorations with those of Shackleton. We have evaluated an episode of Deadly 60 and thought it was a brilliant show and would recommend it to all primary school children.

In Maths we have been adding 2 digit numbers to 2 digit numbers and used a variety of strategies to help us.

We hope all Year 2 children have a wonderful, restful time over the holiday - you have worked so hard in Term 1 and we look forward to more explorer learning in Term 2.

[Year 2 Welcome Letter](#)



Year 2 Team

Year 3

Well, what a super start to year 3. The children have really shown us how hard they can work and it has been truly wonderful being back in school and getting to know them.

This week, in science, the children have been exploring forces and more specifically friction. We carried out an investigation into friction and how much force it took to move a shoe along different floor surfaces.

We have finished publishing our Leon and the Place Between stories and we are excited to take them home to share with you.



In English, we have been practising recognising pronouns as sentence starters and have also been working on our capitals and full stops.

In maths, we have been measuring accurate lines and calculating the perimeter of quadrilateral shapes.

Thank you so much for all of the generous harvest donations.

Have a lovely and relaxing break and we look forward to seeing you all again next term.



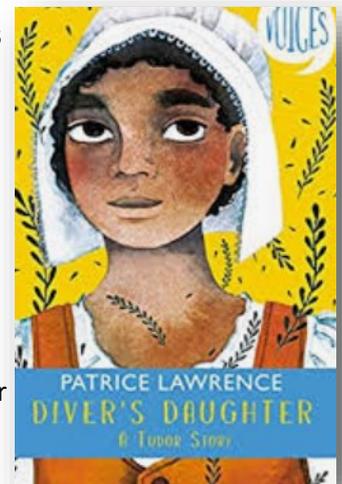
Year 3 Team

Year 4

We have been really impressed this week with the thoughtful and creative responses to the children's RE homework: What is important to me? They have shown increasing confidence in expressing their own world views whilst respecting others who have different beliefs. Well done Year 4!

We are looking forward to continuing our Tudor topic after half term and have some exciting DT projects planned. In maths, we will be exploring multiplication - including introducing written methods. In English, we will start our historical narrative unit based on the book *Diver's Daughter*.

There is no homework over half term but please take this opportunity to refresh your pencil cases and make sure all uniform (including your coat) is named ready for the new term.



Year 4 Team

Year 5

It was lovely to meet so many of you during our Parent Consultations last week. Thank you for adapting and being patient with us as we had a few minor glitches across the two evenings!

[Here is a copy of materials referenced during these meetings.](#) These are merely attached for your reference, should you need inspiration of current books to dip into or new ways to practise spellings or times-table facts. Please also look out on Seesaw over the next few weeks, for glimpses of our Blitz work from various lessons.

We, the Year 5 Team, would like to thank all parents for your support throughout the term and to congratulate the pupils on such a fantastic return to school. We have been over-whelmed by their enthusiasm and hard work and are very excited to see what more they can achieve next term!



Year 5 has had a great week presenting their WW2 family research this week. The effort that the children have made to find out about their families during this period has been amazing. It has been very moving listening to the experiences of grandparents and great grandparents and we have all learnt so much.

Can we take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and restful half-term.

Year 5 Team

Two singing opportunities for Year 5

Singing lessons will begin after half term on a Thursday afternoon.

These are open to anyone but places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis.

Please email me direct on me@theresaroberts.co.uk if your child is interested and you would like more details.

Chamber choir is also starting up after half term and for the time being the Year 5 will be separate from Year 6. It is a paid activity after school on a Wednesday until 4pm. To stay Covid safe during sessions the children will stand in a group with others from their class at a distance from the other class bubbles. Chamber Choir is an auditioned choir and auditions will be held during Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes on the first week back. The audition song will be 'Count on me' by Bruno Mars. The children can practise over half term!

If your child would like to audition please email me direct on me@theresaroberts.co.uk so I can add their name to the list.

Many thanks, Theresa Roberts

Year 6

The Year 6 Team, would like to thank all parents and children for a very successful and positive Zoom parents evening. It is always a pleasure to talk about our wonderful children and it was particularly touching to receive so much appreciation for the efforts made returning all the children safely to school.

We have used a variety of digital skills this week: making a scientific film about the circulatory system (using green screen technology); an introductory video to our year 3 buddies and we brought our WW2 sketches to life using ChatterPix.

Thank you for your support with WW2 family research this week. The children presented with enthusiasm and confidence and it has been amazing (and moving at times) listening to the experiences of grandparents and great grandparents.

'Make Do and Mend' - As part of our topic next term, we will be exploring the rationing of clothes during WW2 and creating something new out of something old. So please save any scraps of material, old textiles/buttons/cord or look out for items of clothing you have grown out of or were going to pass on and keep them safe ready to bring in after half term.

Have a restful break after this very long term.

[Year 6 Leavers Book—Important information](#)

With thanks, Year 6 Team.