



# Elmlea Schools' Trust

## Newsletter Issue 9

### Thursday 6th November

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the start of Term 2. We hope you have had a good half-term break and an opportunity to spend time together as a family.

Your children have returned refreshed, ready for a new term and have embraced their learning with their usual gusto. Thank you for all you do to ensure your children arrive at school every day, ready to learn, we are very grateful for this and know this is a key part of our success as a school community.

#### **Covid Health and Safety reminders.**

Please wear masks at drop off and pick up and continue to wear them until you are away from the larger number of parents. We do have families who have vulnerable family members and the masks help protect others.

Please do not drop off forgotten items for children at the office. We have vulnerable members of staff and forgotten items have to pass through the office and then be delivered to classrooms. A timetable with what is needed each day for the children to tick off gets everyone into habits useful for every stage of their education. A child in Yr5 created a good example your child could design too. – link

Please stick to only 1 parent or carer picking up your children if possible. We still need to keep the number of adults collecting to a minimum.

Windows are open in all classrooms throughout the day. The heating is on to keep the room temperatures at acceptable levels but it is not as warm as usual. Please ensure your children are dressed with removable layers on. Plain navy or pale blue fleeces or gilets are perfect additions.

#### **Children walking home alone**

Please ensure that if your child walks home alone, you are confident that they would be able to manage an unpredictable situation. As a school we can only advise what arrangements you put in place after school for your children. However, your child does need a certain level of maturity to be able to know what to do if something untoward happens on the way home, such as being approached by a stranger. Please bear this in mind when your child is very persuasive about wanting to walk home alone.

#### **Remote education**

As I said in my letter before half term we do not want our schools to close, we believe it is essential for all our children to be in school and we will remain open unless the government directs us otherwise.

Thank you to everyone who completed the essential critical worker survey. You do not need to inform us at the moment if your shift pattern changes as we will confirm this with you should we go into full lockdown.

Thank you to everyone who responded with regards to the information regarding devices your children have access to at home and Wi-Fi/internet access should they need to be learning remotely at home. Our remote education policy has been drafted to outline expectations in the event of lockdown and can be viewed here.

#### **Children in Need**

This year we are joining in with Children in Need day across the Trust.

**Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher**

#### **North Bristol Food Bank**



Greg from Bristol North West Foodbank came to collect the Harvest donations on our Inset day. He was overwhelmed with the generosity of our school community. Thanks to Mr Weller, Miss Wilson and Mrs Bateau for helping with the heavy lifting!



## Children in Need

Next week we will be raising funds for Children in Need. During the week, children will take part in the 'Five to Thrive' activities, based on the 5 Ways to Well-being.



Infant children: Bedtime story evening is always a hit in the infants. This year all class teachers will record a bedtime story and post them on their class pages using Seesaw on Thursday 12th November for the children to enjoy with the favourite teddy and PJs. The suggested donation is £1 per family.

Junior children: As part of this week's homework, you have the chance to take part in our Virtual Bake Off via Seesaw. Bake and decorate six identical cupcakes following the recipe provided. Add photos of the finished cakes, plus a taste review from someone in your family. Entries must be uploaded by WEDNESDAY and winners will be announced in Friday's celebration assembly. See the Seesaw Activity for more information. Suggested donation £1 per entry.

Dress up day: On Friday 13th, wear something spotty or your brightest clothes. Suggested donation £1 per child. Please use the following link to donate: <https://www.justgiving.com/account/your-pages/ElmleaSchoolsTrust>

Mr Daubney, KS1 Deputy Head

## Anti-Bullying Week

On the week commencing the 16th November across the Junior's and Infant's we will be having Anti-bullying week. This is an important opportunity for us to discuss behaviour and feelings as well as to provide the children with a clear understanding of how they can help us to ensure there is no bullying within our schools. To start this very important week off on **Monday 16th November we will be holding an 'Odd Socks' day.** The aim of this is to highlight to the children how important it is to understand differences and uniqueness. Across both schools on this day the children will simply be asked to come into school wearing odd socks. During the school day they will also take part in some exciting tasks and be able to watch a live assembly discussing uniqueness. This is not being carried out as a fundraising opportunity but rather as an opportunity for us to raise awareness of Anti-bullying week. 'Odd Socks' day is being run by the Anti-bullying Association. Further information regarding 'Odd Socks' day can be found at <https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/odd-socks-day/what-odd-socks-day>



Miss Andrews, Class Teacher

## Christmas Card orders - Juniors

Your children have been working very hard on their Christmas designs again this year and today should be bringing home a sample of their card. Their artwork is available to purchase on a range of lovely products including mugs, tea towels and eco bags.

This year we are operating a cashless system and payment can be made **from tomorrow** using the following link, which EISA has kindly let us use <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa>.

Prices are as follows:

Pack of 12 cards - £5	Gift 11 cards - £2.25	Eco Bags - £8.50	Mugs - £6	Tea Towels - £7.50
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Please ensure payment and orders are received no later than **Monday 16th November** to ensure delivery before Christmas. All proceeds go to the school and make a significant contribution each year, so many thanks in advance for your orders!

Kate Hulme (Parent)

## Virtual Indoor Athletics Competition

The last week of term saw the children compete in their classes the chest push event which is where the children throw a ball as far as they can from a standing position. Excellent participation from lots of classes meant it was tight at the top of furthest throws, a big congratulations to the following boys and girls in each year for throwing the furthest;

This week we are also taking part in Wesport's 3 week virtual winter games which kicks off with a star jump challenge, these results will posted in next week's newsletter, good luck with everyone taking part.

Y3	Y4	Y6
Elodie. B 3G	Kyla. L 4H	Emilia. P 6L
Sanvi. P 3S	Charlie. L 4H	Josh. S 6L
Hazel. L 3S		
Sophie. M 3S		
Etienne. B 3W		

Mrs Paterson, Head of PE & Sport (KS2)

## Maths (Key Stage 2)

As part of our commitment to make maths exciting and high profile in our school, this November we are taking part in a competition called Rock Out 2020 and it's all done online via TT Rockstars. Times Tables Rock Stars will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours). Winning classes in the school and in the country as a whole will be the ones with the highest average. This means it needs to be a team effort to get the class average up. It will only count the points earned between 7.30am - 7.30pm and it is recommended you spend around 30 minutes a day on it. We look forward to seeing how we do and we will share the results as soon as we can. [TT Rockstars poster](#)



Mr Weller, Class Teacher

## Year 5 and 6 Music

It has been such a delight to watch and listen to the children performing solos or duets in Music this week. There is so much musical talent here at Elmlea and the children's confidence has really impressed me. A special mention must also be made for the way they have supported and encouraged each other, applauding with gusto and making helpful suggestions as to how pieces could be improved.

I am really keen to start individual music instrument lessons within the next few weeks and please be assured that we are talking to peripatetic staff and putting risk assessments in place in accordance with government guidelines so that we can begin lessons safely, as soon as possible.

In the meantime, please encourage the children to keep practising - their efforts are not going unnoticed.

Mrs Parkes, Music Coordinator

<b>**Reminder**</b>	<b>Children In Need</b>	Wear something spotty! £1 Contribution to Children In Need <b>Friday 13th November</b>
<b>**Action Required**</b>	<b>Data Collection Form</b>	If you haven't done so already, please return your data collection form.

## **\*\* The half term treasure hunt is running this weekend\*\***

Are you looking for a little adventure this weekend? 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.

## Nurturing Programme

Netmums are offering a free online parenting course. It draws on the evidenced-based Nurturing Programme, and is aimed at parents of children of primary-school age. It can be started at any time, over a period to suit the participant, and is ideal for busy parents to engage with. [For more details click this link.](#)



**\*\*WANTED\*\***

**NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE JUNIOR PTA**

**CONTACT**

[JUNIOR@ELMLEASCHOOLSTRUST.COM](mailto:JUNIOR@ELMLEASCHOOLSTRUST.COM)





# Year Group News

## Reception

The Reception children have started Term 2 with great enthusiasm. We have learnt the sounds u-r-h and practised finding one more and one less than a given quantity. We have enjoyed forest school fun in the wooded area around our site and enjoyed beginning our new class topics through our topic immersion day where we took part in lots of related activities. We chose our new topics as a class and they are as follows:

Maple Class are learning all about Pirates!

Willow Class are learning all about Castles!

Oak Class are learning all about Jungles!

This term we will be doing low-level apparatus PE. Please can we ask that you send in a pair of blue PE shorts for your child to keep at school for the duration of the term if you haven't already. We will always do our PE sessions on a Friday therefore advise that you send your child to school in a polo shirt on that day so that they only have to change their bottom half.

Reception Team

## Year 1

This week, in Year 1, we've learnt a poem to show,  
Even those who were shy had a really good go,  
All about fireworks that zoomed and flew in the sky,  
We're proud that everyone had a great try,  
We've also been learning to add and subtract,  
Number bonds within ten have been part of the act,  
Working out all the ways to make each number bond,  
This week to ten but next week beyond,  
Keep an eye out on Seesaw, now our confidence is growing,  
To see a performance of our firework poem.

[Year 1 Place Value Booklet](#)  
[Year 1 Addition and Subtraction](#)

Year 1 Team

## Year 2

It is so lovely to see all of the children back for another exciting term of learning.

In Year 2 this week we have been thinking about our 5 senses and using this to help us write firework poems. We worked hard to make our poems interesting using similes and onomatopoeia (please ask your children what these words mean). We have also started to think about our new topic: The Rainforest. We have come up with questions that we want to find out the answers to as we learn more about this topic. In maths we have been continuing to practice our addition skills learning how to add a 2 digit and a 2 digit number together.



[Year 2 Place Value Booklet](#)  
[Year 2 Addition and Subtraction](#)

Year 2 Team

### Year 3

Year 3 have had a wonderful first week back after half term. In PSHE, we have been discussing families and how they all come in different shapes and sizes. In maths, we have been learning many different ways to calculate our multiplications, including bar models, number lines and arrays. In English, we read the lovely poem written by Kit Wright, 'The Magic Box' and have read several other poems to see which we enjoyed the most. Perhaps, as a family, you can share some poetry with each other at home this weekend? We especially enjoyed our afternoon art sessions where we learnt more about drawing portraits and proportions.



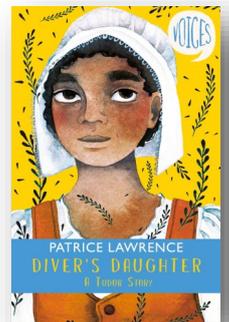
Year 3 Team

### Year 4

Year 4 have made a great start to term 2 and are excited to begin their buggy project, which will combine measuring, sawing and joining skills with their understanding of electrical circuits.

We have enjoyed finding out more about different aspects of life for ordinary Tudors in history lessons and through reading our new English text, Diver's Daughter. Did you know that barber surgeons cut hair in peace time and cut off limbs in the war?

Next week in maths, we will be developing mental and written methods for division. In English we will be continuing our suspense writing (duh duh duuuh!)



Year 4 Team

### Year 5

In Year 5 this week, we have been looking at free-verse poetry. As part of this, we have taken inspiration from sound clips of the Blitz and have watched propaganda videos from the 1940's to help us create our own air raid poems. Next week, we will be recording voice-overs to accompany our poems too.



Well done on a great start back to Term 2, Year 5!

Year 5 Team

### Year 6



Year 6 have continued their WWII topic by comparing a modern diet to those who were rationed during the war. We also looked at how vital women were during the war and how their roles changed for the better. In English, we have been practising and performing War poems ready for our special Remembrance service next week. In maths, we have been reading scales and converting measures including imperial ones. Next week, we will be writing our own poems and starting some work on fractions.

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

With thanks, Year 6 Team.

