



Elmlea  
Schools' Trust

# Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 28 Friday 23rd April

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you all had an opportunity to rest at some point during the Easter holidays and made the most of the opportunity to socialise and visit friends and family. Your children have really benefitted from a change of pace and have returned refreshed and ready for a new term with all that it holds.

In school every year group has begun a new topic theme for learning, this has been met with great enthusiasm by the children and we can't wait to see how their learning develops over the weeks ahead. Please read the year group pages for your child further on in this newsletter which outline the new topics.

This week has also seen our first zero tech day in the classrooms. Every year group took part and thank you to Ida and Bryony in Yr6 for suggesting it and then to our teaching staff for embracing the challenge, ensuring the children enjoyed a meaningful day without using computers, interactive whiteboards or any photocopies. It has made everyone think about our reliance on technology and this also extended into a discussion with the children about caring for our planet by doing small things that could make a big difference.

Have a lovely weekend everyone, enjoy the good weather and the opportunity to be outside as a family.

**Lorraine Wright: Executive Headteacher**

## Staffing update

Miss Butler, whom many of you will know from her work as a learning support assistant in the Infant School for 17 years, will be leaving us next week to join a school nearer to home and with new challenges. Miss Butler has given so much to many, many Elmlea children across the years and we are very grateful for all that she has done to support every child she has worked with. We wish her every success in her new role.

## Diary Dates

### KEY DATES

#### Term 5

Mon 19 April  
to  
Fri 28 May

#### BANK HOLIDAY

Mon 3 May

#### Term 6

Mon 7 June  
to  
Tues 20 July

#### INSET DAYS

Mon 7 June  
Fri 2 July  
&  
Weds 21st July  
**\*\*NEW date\*\***



### **\*\*WANTED\*\***

New committee members for the New  
Elmlea Schools Trust Combined PTA

Please Contact

[Junior@elmleaschoolstrust.com](mailto:Junior@elmleaschoolstrust.com) or  
[elmlea\\_infants\\_pta@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elmlea_infants_pta@hotmail.co.uk)

to register your interest



### **Comic Relief: Red Nose Day**

Thank you Elmlea!

You raised a total of **£1,632**

### **Return of Junior Clubs**

Clubs start back next week, please check your emails to find confirmation of which term your child has been allocated their club(s)



### Music



I have registered Elmlea as a school to access the **Explore the Orchestra** live concerts over the next few weeks. The BSO (Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra) is very excited for families to join them for a fun and interactive way to be introduced to the orchestra. Every concert goes live at 11am on Saturday morning. The event will last roughly 20 minutes and should be a great way of introducing the families of the orchestra, especially to those children who may be interested in starting instrumental tuition.

How to access: Go to the BSO project page [here](#)

- ┆ The dates are as follows:
- ┆ Meet the Brass: Sat 24 April
- ┆ Meet the Wind: Sat 1 May
- ┆ Meet the Strings: Sat 8 May
- ┆ Meet the Percussion: Sat 15 May
- ┆ Explore the Orchestra Finale: Sat 22 May

On that page is a link there that says [Access for Schools](#) or click to view the livestream. This will take you directly to the livestream page where you need to input the password **symphony**.

I hope this is of interest and something that families can enjoy together!  
**Mrs Parkes**

### French club

Bonjour tout le monde, French club is continuing with weekly zoom clubs for KS1 and KS2 for the time-being. These are at 4.15 and 5pm on weekdays. If you'd like to be put on a waiting list for when the club can return face to face at school on a Tuesday afterschool please do let me know. I also have a few spaces left in our Tuesday 5pm and Saturday 11am club de cuisine - this term we are learning to make the following sauces - velouté, tomate, espanole, hollandaise, béchamel. Please drop me an email for more details - [ak@clubs4kids.com](mailto:ak@clubs4kids.com) or call 07375306881. À bientôt! **Anna-Kate**



### Guitar lessons



Learn to play guitar with Hazel (who has 28 years' experience as qualified teacher and professional guitarist) Parents of guitarists are invited to watch guitarists perform in end of term school assemblies.

Thanks, **Hazel Winter** [hazel@hazelwinter.co.uk](mailto:hazel@hazelwinter.co.uk)

### Zero Tech Day

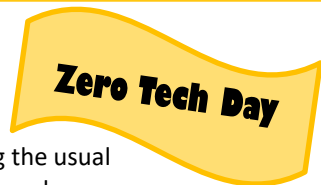
On Thursday 22nd April, across the trust, we ran our Zero Tech Day alongside Earth Day. The day was proposed by two Year 6 pupils who raised concerns about screen addiction and the impact of energy wastage on the planet.

The tech-free day meant that classes started with a traditional paper register, rather than using the usual computer system. Then, pupils took a creative approach to learning without interactive whiteboards.

Worksheets were also off limits as the computers and printers were turned off for the day. Teachers even turned off their emails during school hours, and pledged not to use their mobile phones during breaks.

The children learnt about the environmental benefits of switching off electrical equipment, and also talked about the social and emotional benefits of spending more time away from screens.

Earth Day started in 1970, and is a day to focus on creating a more sustainable environment to protect future of the planet. This includes preventing climate change and pollution, and protecting wildlife.



### Charity hair cut by Elmlea pupil



A little while back Eleanor (4B) decided to have her hair cut to donate to a charity that makes wigs for children with cancer Last week. Eleanor had her haircut in the garden (by Emmie's Mum). She had managed to grow her hair long enough for 15 inches to be donated to the Little Princess Trust who provide real hair wigs for children and young people who lose their hair due to cancer and other illnesses. She also used the opportunity to raise sponsorship money for the WWF, her favourite charity. Thanks to all the support from friends and family, Eleanor has raised £531 so far - smashing her original target of £100. Eleanor would like to thank all of her school friends who sent messages of support and donations. [This is the link](#) to her just giving page



### Call out for skilled Landscape Gardeners

We are looking for volunteer(s) to help us design our natural educational and therapy space. We have a wonderful large nature space in our grounds at Elmlea Schools Trust, which we would like to be able to use to its full potential year round.

We envisage this space becoming a semi-wild, yet fully functional, accessible, educational and therapeutic space, given an injection of funds and a well-considered design. The space already has several varieties of large, native trees including beech, oak and horse chestnut that create shaded and wooded areas as well as grassy spaces, ponds, veg patches, smaller shrubs and a marsh/bog area, that support a wide variety of wildlife. It is a perfect setting for children to explore and learn about nature, feeding into and adding to many topics in the curriculum, as well as providing a space for children to access the therapeutic benefits of accessing the outdoors, space for reflection, physicality and mindfulness.

Please call 0117 377 2266 or email us on [Junior@elmleaschoolstrust.com](mailto:Junior@elmleaschoolstrust.com) if you can help!



### Spring Virtual School Games: 7th Spirit of the Games Value Design Challenge



Westport need a 7th spirit of the school the games value that children adhere to each time they compete in a school games competition. The value could be anything children feel important to have whilst competing in sport and they may wish to draw upon their experiences of the past year during lockdowns and what this has taught them. Please find the attached [event outline](#) for more information as well as a [printable resource](#) to help production. This is open to all children in the junior school and all entries to be given to Mrs Paterson no later than the end of the day Monday 10th May. Elmlea's entry will then be submitted on May 14th.

I know Elmlea children are both extremely creative as well as active and so I look forward to receiving all your entries over the next couple of weeks. Good luck!

**Hannah Paterson, Head of PE and School Sport**

### Team Superschools sponsored event at Elmlea Infants School

We are pleased to announce that Team Superschools will be hosting a sponsored event at Elmlea on Monday 17th May in the morning with a special visit from the international Olympian Jason Gardener.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to meet an international Olympian. The money raised will be used to regenerate the outside area as well as supporting athletes in a variety of sports from grass roots level through to Olympic level.

The children will have the opportunity to take part in a simple fun fitness circuit (for which they will be sponsored) which will include the following exercises:

- Sit ups (KS2) or Spotty Dogs (KS1)
- Leg drive
- Press ups
- Star jumps

The morning is all about fun, enjoyment and participation, with all children from Reception to Year 2 taking part, regardless of whether they collect sponsors or not. After the event the children will have the opportunity to ask Jason some questions, so that they can learn more about the sport and be inspired by their guest.

Our pupils have already seen a video from TSS, telling them all about their special guest and what will happen on the day. They were also told about seeking sponsorship safely with the help from family and friends and it was emphasised that strangers should never be approached. Here is an [online sponsorship page](#). Please register your child to be able to make online donations. You can then view how much your child has raised and what incentive they will receive (you can only view your own child). You can also view what the school is raising money for, what the school target is and how much we have raised in total.

There are 'incentives' given for raising certain amounts of money: £7.50 - £12.49 = wristband, £12.50 - £19.99 = wrist band and drawstring bag, £20+ = wristband, drawstring bag and medal

Any cheques please make payable to: Elmlea Infants School.

The children will need to come into school on Monday 17th May wearing their regular PE kits.

For parents wishing to learn more about Team Superschools, visit [www.teamsuperschools.co.uk](http://www.teamsuperschools.co.uk).

We are all very much looking forward to the event. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have, Many thanks,

**Holly Rogers and Hannah Paterson, PE and School Sport**



# Year Group News

## Reception

Reception have had a great start to Term 5, enjoying being back playing with their friends and learning. We have all enjoyed learning about and planting sunflower seeds (thank you to Millie's family for the kind donation of seed, pots and soil!) and have been learning how to share amounts fairly so that everyone involved has an equal share.

We are now spending a lot more time outside with many different learning opportunities taking place in our outdoor area for the children. Please can you ensure your child attends school with a named sun hat and suncream is applied to them before getting to school.

How you can help at home:

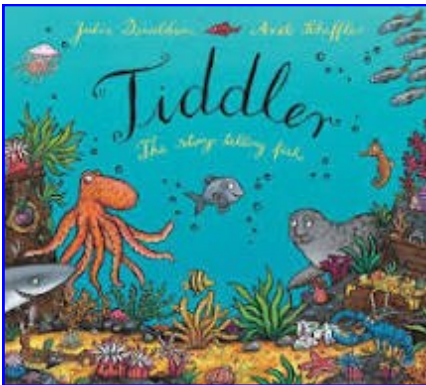
We are now consolidating our learning of Phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs in phonics, please aim to read with your child a little everyday to allow them to practise their learning and develop their reading skills.

Encourage your child to support you when sharing out things at home, this could be when making snacks for example and would reinforce our learning about sharing.



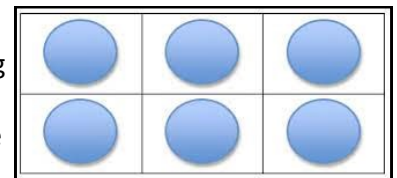
**The Reception Team**

## Year 1



Welcome to Term 5! The children have settled back in well and are enjoying the warm weather. This week we have read Tiddler by Julia Donaldson and started to learn the story.

We have also been reminding ourselves about multiplication. We have been making arrays to show calculations. You could ask your child to show you what  $2 \times 3$  looks like as an array! We read it as 2 rows of 3.



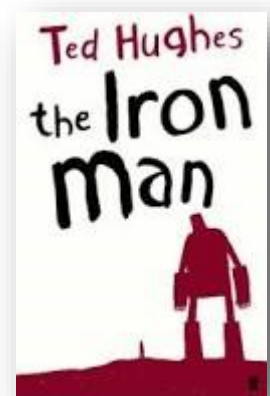
**Year 1 Team**

## Year 2

Year 2 have been incredibly excited this week as we had a special and unique visitor to the school. On Tuesday, Steve found the weird site of three areas of the school field covered in random bits of scrap metal. Where had this all come from? The children worked really hard to try and come up with ideas of who it could have been. Year 2 then received a message from something called The Iron Man. Who was he? Where had he come from? Why was he collecting metal?

He told the children to, "Learn my story now!"

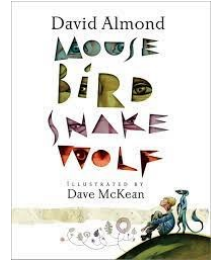
Strangely, a book had appeared in each classroom called The Iron Man. Had he really come to visit Elmlea?



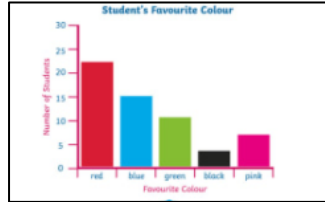
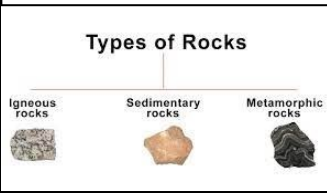
**Year 2 Team**

### Year 3

Year 3 have had a brilliant start to the term! We really enjoyed Wow Day on Monday as we launched our new topic, 'Wonderful Westbury?'. We're looking forward to finding out more about Westbury-on-Trym. In maths, we had fun analysing and interpreting pictograms and bar charts and even created our own! In English, we began a new text called 'Mouse Bird Snake Wolf' and we are all curious to discover what happens next. In science, we began our work on rocks and soil - we made careful observations and sketched different rock types. On Thursday, we embraced a Zero Tech Day and it was really interesting to



see how we could learn in different ways. Well done everybody for such a great start to Term 5 - we are so excited for the coming weeks!



Year 3 Team

### Year 4

Year 4 have had a positive start to term 5 as we launched our new topic, 'Wonderful Westbury?' On our launch day, we created movie trailers to promote our school, undertook some orienteering challenges and have begun our project to look at the positives of the place we live. In maths we have been using a book called 'Window' to explore settings and on Zero Tech Day we had the chance to make our own windows to generate descriptive language. For maths, we have been revisiting measure and had a good exploration of capacity which involved measuring different amounts of water. Please make sure all pupils come to school with all the resources they need for the day including water bottles.



Year 4 Team

### Year 5

In Year 5, we have started our new Science unit on Lifecycles. This week, Year 5 learned the technical names for each part of a flower and enjoyed dissecting a plant to find evidence of each of these parts. We discovered different ways that plants can be pollinated, in order for them to be able to reproduce.



Year 5 are also taking part in a School Linking project. We have been paired with Uphill and Cabot Primary Schools and have learnt about their class teachers, looked at pictures of their schools and their local area. As part of our first share, we drew pictures of ourselves and wrote about 'What makes us happy' to share with our linking classes. We are really excited to learn more about them!



Year 5 Team

### Year 6

Year 6 have settled back in to the swing of school this week after a much needed Easter break. On Monday, Year 6 were launched into our brand new topic 'Bristol Through Time' and thoroughly enjoyed creating a shared class piece of art work depicting one of Bristol's most famous landmarks inspired by Bristol-based artist Jenny Urquhart. They also enjoyed beginning to expand their



knowledge of Bristol's history, achievements, changes over time and learning about Bristolians of significance. This learning is already coming in handy with the start of a new writing unit, in which the children will write a tourist information report all about Bristol and all it has to offer!

Thursday marked 'Earth Day' and Bryony and Ida in 6B lead the school in their vision for a zero-tech day – and what a brilliant idea it was! It certainly made the Year 6 teachers get creative!

Year 6 also thoroughly enjoyed exploring light within our Science lesson this week and wowed us with their enthusiasm, scientific thinking and enquiry skills

Year 6 Team

