



Elmlea Schools' Trust

Newsletter Issue 18

Friday 22nd January

Dear parents and carers,

At the end of this week we are half way through Term 3. It seems, three weeks in, that you have all found your own rhythms and routines for home learning and this as a real achievement in itself. As a senior leadership team, we hold weekly meeting with class teachers, who give us feedback on every class, so we know how hard you are working to support your children at home and how fortunate the children of Elmlea are to have that.

I would also like to reassure you that when we reopen, our outstanding teaching provision will ensure that every child through targeted support, reaches the attainment levels they would have reached had we not been closed. It is what Elmlea does really well and our data from September 2020 to December 2020 backs this up. Those who on return in September were off track from their prior attainment levels have either caught up or made accelerated progress to catch up.

Please do not worry, no-one is perfect at home learning, together through Tapestry/Seesaw and Teams, we will do all we can to support your children now and when they return.

Enjoy your weekend the sun is shining and forecast for tomorrow too, hooray.

Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher

Statutory testing

We have received confirmation from the DfE that all statutory testing of children in primary schools will not take place this year and therefore there will be no reporting of data to our local authority. We will of course, once we reopen, be continuing with our usual in school assessments which support our planning of learning.

The following assessments, scheduled between April and July 2021, have been cancelled:

- (Reception) the early years foundation stage (EYFS) profile
- (Year 2) KS1 teacher assessments
- (Year 6) KS2 tests and teacher assessments
- (Year 1) phonics screening check

Remote learning

Seesaw and Teams

School work for remote learning is currently set on Seesaw as it is a great tool for sharing activities and collecting responses to learning. We are aware that there are some limitations to its functions, particularly around printing out worksheets.



Although we are a school that tries to be eco-friendly, in these tricky times it may well be easier for you to manage home learning by printing certain worksheets. From now on, where appropriate, teachers will be adding worksheets to the files sections on Teams. This should make the worksheets more printer friendly for those who wish to work directly onto sheets.

Worksheets and tasks will continue to be added to Seesaw for those who are happy to complete work online as we have been doing. We will of course be collecting responses to home learning through Seesaw as we have been.

News and Notices

Key Dates 2021

Term 3

Tuesday 5th January

to

Friday 12th February

Term 4

Monday 22nd February

to

Thursday 1 April 2021

Term 5

Monday 19 April 2021

to

Friday 28 May 2021

Term 6

Monday 7 June 2021

to Wednesday 21 July
2021

INSET DAYS

Monday 7th June

&

Friday 2nd July

(NEW date)



The Speech and Drama department is still alive and kicking online! Ten current Elmlea pupils took an online Lamda Drama exam in December:

Well done to Callie, Chloe, Daisy Boo, Ellie, Emily, Fiona, Francesca, Isabella, Isla & Lena

Between them they achieved two merits and eight distinctions.

Rebecca Speech and Drama department

Supporting children and young people's mental health.

Please see [excellent resources](#) provided by the NSPCC to support parents whose child may be finding this lockdown is negatively affecting their child's mental health.



INSET day postponed

POSTPONED

A reminder that the INSET day we had planned for staff training on the 29th January when school would have been closed has now been postponed as we need to remain open to offer essential childcare for our critical workers. Remote learning will continue as normal.



COUCH TO FAMILY FIT



COUCH TO FAMILY FIT

We know a lot of people want to feel fitter, and want to find activities they can do at home with their family, so we created Couch to Family Fit - an at-home exercise plan for beginners.

The plan involves 3 video sessions a week, with rest days in between, and a different schedule for each of the 4 weeks.

[Find out more](#)