

Dear parents and carers,

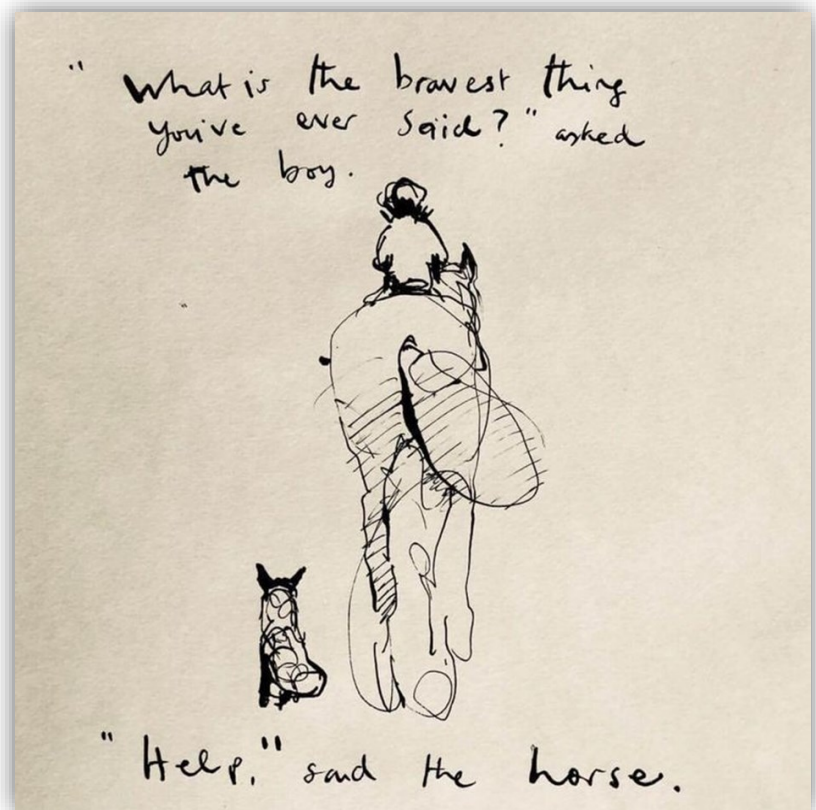
I hope you have had a good week. The milder days this week and sunshine today have been welcome in lifting all our spirits.

This week has been children's mental health week and we know your children have really enjoyed the range of activities we have included to boost their mental health and wellbeing. However, our overriding key message will always be that the children tell someone how they feel, which we all know can take great courage.

Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher

Parent teacher meetings

Thank you to everyone who has signed up for their parent teacher meeting. You will be sent the zoom code via email to log in to as well as directions to keep the meetings running smoothly. These meetings enable us to better understand your child and build on our strong relationships with home and school to achieve the very best for them.



From "The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse," by Charles Mackesy.

Survey on home learning

A survey on home learning will be sent out today via email which will enable you to provide us with feedback so we can improve our home learning provision for the future. Please use this as an opportunity for you to give your thoughts and opinions on our remote provision. The survey is short but has an open section at the end too for you to offer your thoughts and comments.

Complete your survey [here](#)





Children's Mental Health Week 1-7 February 2021



This week the children have been celebrating Children's Mental Health Week by joining in a range of activities set by the teachers on seesaw. I am sure you will agree that these activities have helped us all to pause and consider the important things in life. The children have been discussing their own mental health in their daily Teams meetings with their teacher with topics ranging from being grateful, what makes us happy and sharing hopes and aspirations for the future.

Some of my personal highlights of the week have been the making connections with grandparents activity set by year 4 where the children discussed favourite stories with their grandparents and the Dress to Express day where children were asked to express something about themselves in the clothes they chose to wear; I saw lots of princesses, footballers and explorers in school on Friday!

I would also like to say a huge *Thank You* to our lovely cooks, Miss Wade and Mrs Mapstone, who baked delicious heart-shaped biscuits for the children in school on Friday. This helped to remind us that there are people around us who care for us and to look after our hearts and minds. Take care everyone and keeping checking in with 5 ways to wellbeing.



Mrs Sloper

In the Infants' I have enjoyed so much seeing how you have found ways to keep your minds, as well as your bodies healthy. There was such a range of ways you chose to express yourself and I know you all enjoyed finding lots of ways of 'Taking time to be a child'

My highlight has been seeing your love of music and the arts this week. Nothing can beat a dance around the house or the colours on a page when you are feeling a little sad.

I've heard from all the teachers that the afternoon meetings on Friday were a joy to be part of and I have enjoyed having Harry Potters flying around the school today.

Please take this weekend as an opportunity to continue taking care of your mental health and don't forget to tell your family if you are feeling sad so we can help try and keep your brains happy.

Best wishes,

Mr D

Key Dates 2021

<u>Term 3</u>	<u>Term 4</u>	<u>Term 5</u>	<u>Term 6</u>
Tues 5 Jan to Fri 12 Feb	Mon 22 Feb to Thurs 1 April	Mon 19 April to Fri 28 May	Mon 7 June to Weds 21 July

INSET DAYS - Mon 7 June & Fri 2 July (*NEW date*)

This week we would like to introduce you to the members of the Local Governing Bodies.

The Local Governing Bodies meet together as a joint committee on a termly basis and are responsible for specific areas that have been delegated by the Board of Trustees including:

Maintaining and improving Standards and Achievement.

Providing support and challenge in regard to the Schools Improvement Plan.

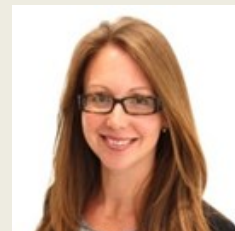
Providing support in relation to safeguarding.

Sarah Martin—Trustee

Term of Office 3 December 2019 to 4 December 2023

Chair of Staffing Committee

Sarah was appointed as a Trustee on the newly formed Elmlea Schools Trust Board of Trustees in 2019. Sarah has twins who started in reception in 2019. Sarah is from Bristol and lives in Westbury on Trym. Sarah is an HR Consultant, and prior to this she practised as a Solicitor for 11 years, specialising in employment law and she brings this knowledge and experience to the Board.



Jon Hollingbery—Trustee

Term of Office 6 November 2018 to 5 November 2022

Jon joined as an appointed trustee of Elmlea Junior School in October 2014 and remained a trustee following the formation of the Elmlea Schools' Trust in 2019. Jon has 2 children in the junior school and his youngest has just started in reception in the Infants in September 2014. Jon is a director of his own finance and management consultancy which helps businesses design their finance structures, processes and systems. In his spare time Jon enjoys boot camps and red wine.



Hedley Rowlands—Trustee

Term of Office 1 September 2019 to 11 December 2022 Chair of Operations Committee

Hedley is a chartered accountant with finance, governance and improvement experience in large insurance and telecoms corporates with children at different stages at Elmlea. When time permits Hedley enjoys camping, caravanning, classic cars and Formula 1.



Trustee and Governor recruitment

The Elmlea Schools' Trust is now 16 months old and what a first year it has been! Between the school staff, Trustees, Governors, pupils and families we have successfully united the infant and junior schools into one academy; formalised the leadership team; aligned suppliers, contracts and policies and faced all of the challenges that the pandemic has provided.

The role of the Trustees and Governors has never been more important and we are keen to recruit more volunteers to join the team as we move into the next phase of the Trust's development.

Beyond your professional skills, we are just looking for enthusiasm and commitment. If you are naturally inquisitive, seek high standards and are prepared to get involved, this is for you. [More information can be found here](#)

Want to find out more?

Please email clerktotrustees@elmleaschoolstrust.com to register your interest. Provide a contact number and one of the Trustees will set up a call with you to talk about the role and answer any questions that you have.

Please take this opportunity to support your school. Within our parent community we have an abundance of skills, experience and personalities that could really make a difference to our children's experience at Elmlea but it's up to us to make it happen. Many thanks,

Robin Hudswell Trustee Vice Chair, Elmlea Schools Trust