

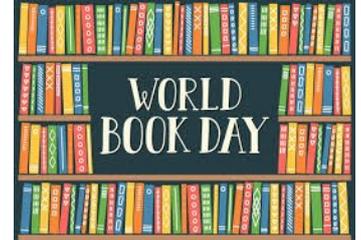


Elmlea  
Schools' Trust

# Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 23 Friday 5th March

Dear parents and carers,

I really hope this last week has been positive for you all and knowing the children can all return has cheered your way. World Book Day has undoubtedly been a highlight and it was lovely to see children dressed up as book characters in their teams meetings or in school. It feels a fitting end that we are ending with a celebration of books and the enjoyment they bring us, as we finish this unusual time for all our families.



**Thank you** As we look forward to reopening school to all children on Monday, it is important to reflect on what has been achieved during this lockdown and to give thanks.

Thank you to our wonderfully, resilient children, who have continued to get up every day and embrace this unusual experience. They have adapted to remote learning or school childcare and bounced into their Teams sessions or school, bringing energy and humour to each other without even knowing it.

Thank you to all our parents and carers at home who have laboured throughout, supporting your children's learning, many of you whilst also holding down your own jobs. It has been tough but the end is very much in sight, you made it and can look forward to the coming months with hopefulness.



A big thank you to our fabulous Elmlea staff teams, especially to our learning support staff and teachers who have stepped up to run school childcare full time. Thank you to our class teachers who have been with you through this experience guiding your children through their learning and supporting families through a very stressful time. Thank you also to our finance, admin and site teams who have ensured the school kept running smoothly, aiming for business as usual and finally to our senior leadership team, who have helped support and guide all our children and staff teams through this bumpy journey.

The whole Elmlea school community have come together at this very difficult time, determined to support each other and our children as best we could through it all and we have achieved that, together. Thank you!

**Key workers** A big thank you to all our key workers who have supported our communities throughout this time. To all our parents and carers who have really been on the frontline in our hospitals and social care services, who have had to work as never before, under pressures we can only imagine, we are all collectively so thankful for your commitment and service.

**Returning to school** Both school entrances become crowded at drop off and pick up times. We ask that if you drive to school please park in roads around school rather than on Elmlea Avenue or The Dell. There is also a recommended one way system in place for cars whereby cars enter via Brainsfield and leave via Elmlea Avenue onto Parry's Lane. Please adhere to this to prevent congestion. Please also be considerate in your parking, avoiding driveways and not parking on the yellow lines.

**School Uniform** Children are expected to be in school uniform when they return to school, however we know that school shoes are difficult as you can't get to shops to get feet measured. If your child has grown out of their school shoes, trainers are fine to be worn for the rest of this term up to the Easter holidays, not just on PE days. See below for details of the second hand uniform sale next week.

**General Office information and Infant Office closure** Please note the Infant office is closed during the school day. We have made this decision for safeguarding reasons as anyone coming through the Infant gate then has access to all classrooms etc. Therefore after 9:30am any Infant child returning later from a medical appointment etc should use the Junior school office entrance, accessed via The Dell. The phone number for matters relating to the Infant school remains the same 0117 377 2352.

Please note that the Office is NOT able to accept forgotten items, so please get into the routine of ensuring your child has everything they need when they arrive at school each morning.

Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher

### Welcome back.

We can't wait to welcome your children back into school. We will support them to settle back in quickly and aim for this to be a really positive experience. Thank you for sharing any worries your child may have with the class teacher, this will enable our teachers to know how to help them. Be prepared, your children will be exhausted by the end of each week. Please keep those early bedtime routines going and after school arrangements low key initially. The children will build up their stamina for the school days only over time.

### School day – Drop off and Pick Up Times.

Please check you have the right times for drop off and pick up for your children. See the grid below for timings. Please can you continue to wear masks and socially distance where possible.

Year group	Drop Off	Enter school via ...	Pick Up
Reception	8:50am	Infant main gate and line up on dots.	3:15pm
Yr 1	8:45am	Infant main gate and line up in playground on dots.	3:10pm
Yr 2	8:45am	Infant pedestrian gate and straight into classrooms.	3:05pm
Yr 3	8.40am	Junior pedestrian gate and walk to classrooms via the playground. Wait in allocated holding bay if arrived before allocated time.	3.05pm
Yr 4	8.45am	Junior pedestrian gate and walk to classrooms via the playground. Wait in allocated holding bay if arrived before allocated time.	3.10pm
Yr 5	8.50am	Junior pedestrian gate and walk to classrooms via the playground. Wait in allocated holding bay if arrived before allocated time.	3.15pm
Yr 6	8.35am	Junior pedestrian gate and straight into classrooms via playground door.	3.00pm

### Juniors School dinners tasty new menu and ordering reminder

The new menu is now in place and can be found [here](#). May we remind parents that if their child is having a school dinners they must pre order on Aspens. If you haven't pre-ordered, you will receive a phone call from the school and will need to bring a packed lunch in for your child. **Please note** that we are unable to accommodate changes of minds on the day either.

If your child ends up not coming in, eg due to illness, self-isolating or school trips, please remember to cancel your Aspens order as otherwise you will still be charged. Thanks



### Infants back to school details and menu reminder

Please find attached [information](#) from Chartwells' detailing their plans for the safe full re-opening of schools from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Your meal choice will stay the same as you ordered before Christmas and the menu can be found [here](#).

### No Nuts

Please note that any cakes, biscuits, chocolates, sandwiches, cereal bars, pesto etc. bought into school for children OR staff must not contain any nuts. This is to protect the health of children and staff some of whom have life threatening allergies to nuts.



**Please Note:** If your child normally brings an inhaler or auto adrenaline injector into school on a daily basis, please ensure they remember it when starting back next week.

### Music



Well done to children across all year groups for the effort they have been putting into their Seesaw music activities. Your hard work hasn't gone unnoticed.

Instrumental and Singing lessons will resume the week beginning 8th March. I know many of the children have been enjoying their zoom lessons and will be looking forward to seeing their teachers in person. BPM will be in touch confirming the timetable.

Keep practicing everyone! Mrs Parkes

### Second hand uniform sale Wednesday 10th March

We will be holding a second hand uniform sale next Wednesday (10th) on the driveways of 33 The Dell (near the junior entrance) and 32 Elmlea Avenue (near the infant entrance) at pick up between 2.45 and 3.30pm. All items are £1. Please bring correct change if possible to avoid handling of money.

**SECOND HAND  
UNIFORM SALE**

Please drop any outgrown uniform donations at 145 Abbey road (box in porch) before Tuesday 9th March to enable them to be sorted in time for the sale.

Many Thanks,

EISA



### Social media and internet safety reminder

Please ensure that you regularly monitor and read messages your children are sending and receiving online. This might be through online games or via a messaging facility on phones, tablets, computers. Messaging online especially between groups of children requires maturity and understanding which many primary age children may find hard to navigate. We do teach the children about behaviour online but they will still need your guidance at home when they are online.



### North Bristol Virtual Trip to Tokyo Olympic Games

In celebration of the postponed Tokyo Olympic Games this year North Bristol schools are trying to travel to Tokyo to make it to the Olympics, that's only 5,999 miles! Knowing how active Elmlea families are it would be great if we could get involved, you can do this through walking, running, cycling or scooting and why not get everyone involved? Even the dog could help you gain some miles! There will be prizes for the most amount of miles per entry and per school with weekly updates on how far we are traveling, I wonder if we could to travel to Tokyo more than once?!

Once you have completed some miles follow the link below to a google form where you can enter your results, it would also be great to see how you're getting on so please keep me updated on seesaw in your PE folder, I'll also be adding my miles too! Good luck! <https://forms.gle/fSgAU4s9E5cGg4cN8>

Mrs Paterson,

**Head of PE and School Sport**

### Comic Relief 2021

Later in March, we will be marking Comic Relief in school in a variety of ways. This year's theme is 'Funny is Power' and, next Thursday, the children will watch an assembly explaining more about the charity.

In the Juniors, we are taking our traditional Talent Show online. All children in Y3-6 are invited to submit a video via Seesaw showcasing a talent (dancing, singing, telling jokes, playing an instrument...). These must be uploaded by WEDNESDAY 12th MARCH and everyone who enters will receive a Dojo. Class teachers and House Captains will select two acts from each House to be shown to the school on Friday 19th March.

In the Infants, children will be asked to design a superhero to make the world a better place. More information will be coming via Seesaw and Tapestry.

We will also be holding a 'funniest teacher' competition where the children can vote for the member of staff they think tells the best joke. More information on this will come next week.

On Friday 19th March, all children and staff are invited to dress in red or as a superhero with a donation to Comic Relief.

All donations can be made online [here](#).



### Lateral flow testing for any adults in a household with school-aged children



The government has announced that any adults in a household with school-aged children are now able eligible for lateral flow test kits to test themselves for coronavirus twice a week, even if they have no symptoms. School staff have been doing this for several weeks now. The aim is to identify asymptomatic cases and thereby avoid inadvertently spreading the virus.

Please note, that the testing of primary aged children , whilst recommended, it is not compulsory.

Here is the latest guidance:

"Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are [different ways](#) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm. Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

### BS9 Window 12-15 March.



BS9 Window Wanderland will be taking place on 12-15 March. It's a fun, free, covid-safe way to bring joy to our community.

Please sign up to create a window display by following the link below

<https://bs9windowwanderland.wixsite.com/event/event-info/bs9-window-wanderland-2021>

Taking part can be as simple as putting a rainbow in your window.

Please encourage your friends and neighbours to sign up too, and spread some joy through the windows on your street.

On the evenings of 12-15 March, you can follow the [map](#) and go for a wander around our neighbourhood to see the window displays.

### Extra Shine Clubs



Shine are delighted to be offering some **additional** Sports Clubs on site at school for Juniors children on top of the regular clubs and the Easter holiday clubs. Please book online

[Elmlea Infant School | Shine \(myshine.co.uk\)](#) [Elmlea Junior School | Shine \(myshine.co.uk\)](#)

### Free online football 'Ball mastery sessions' with Bristol Inner City Football Academy

With the return of grassroots football on the horizon, Bristol Inner City Football Academy ([www.bicadc.co.uk](http://www.bicadc.co.uk)) wanted to offer young children the opportunity to take part in our clubs' FREE online football 'Ball mastery' sessions!

These virtual sessions will provide children the opportunity to try out some new skills and techniques we have been delivering to our academy players over the last 6 weeks of the lockdown as well as prepare for footballs return.

The sessions will be taking place across the following dates and is open to kids of all ability:

Thursday, 4th 11th & 18th March

Session 1, 5.30 - 5.55pm (Year 1 & 2 )

Session 2, 6.00 - 6.25pm (Year 3, 4, & 5)

All you need is a ball, small space (with many choosing to do it inside) and a water bottle.

So to register for a place please click [here](#)

