

Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 37 Thursday 1st July

Dear parents and carers,

We've all been shuffling up again this afternoon outside in the glorious weather and our new Reception children have been able to visit us again too. It has been such a relief to be able to ensure our transition sessions have gone ahead outside as planned. Thank you to our wonderful staff teams who have tried to ensure your children feel as positive and confident about September as possible and to you too for encouraging a really positive mindset about changing year groups.

Yr6 Camp

Hurray, we were actually able to take Yr6 away on camp for a residential visit to Okehampton in Devon this week. Everyone had so much fun and really enjoyed the variety of challenging adventurous activities. If you would like to see a taste of what Yr6 got up to please visit our [website](#) and click on the Twitter feed.

A huge thank you to the fabulous staff team who went on camp, we are all really grateful to you all for making it happen. It is great to have a team that are so determined for Yr6 children to have an experience of going on camp. There are many lessons that can't be learnt in school and camp provides so many opportunities which are impossible to recreate inside a classroom.

Have a lovely long weekend, as school will be closed tomorrow for staff training.

Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher

Important Notices

Please note: If your child develops a persistent cough they will be sent home along with any siblings in the school and will be required to take a PCR test as per Government guidelines. If a family member is symptomatic and is going for a PCR test, or awaiting results from a test, the whole family should self-isolate until the results come back negative.

May we also remind you of our policies on **Medical/Dental Appointments and Unauthorised Absence** (see sections 3.2 and 7 respectively of the [EST Pupil Attendance Policy and Procedure.](#))

While we recognise that it may be harder than usual at present, parents should try to make appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. Unauthorised absence includes day trips, long weekends and holidays in term time and may result in legal sanctions, usually Penalty Notices or Prosecutions.

2020/2021 Academic Year	2021/2022 Academic Year		
Term 6 Mon 7 th June to Weds 21 July '21 INSET DAYS: Mon 7 th June Frid 2 nd July Weds 21 st July Last day of term Tues 20 July '21	Term 1 Thurs 2 nd Sept to Fri 22 nd Oct '21 INSET DAYS: Thurs 2 nd Sept Fri 3 rd Sept First day of term Mon 6th Sept '21 Term 2 Mon 1 st Nov to Fri 17 th Dec '21 INSET DAY Mon 1 st Nov First day of term Tues 2nd Nov '21	Term 3 Tues 4 th Jan to Fri 18 th Feb INSET DAY Tues 4 th Jan '22 First day of term Weds 5th Jan '22 Term 4 Mon 28 th Feb to Fri 8 th April '22 INSET DAY Mon 21 st March '22	Term 5 Mon 25 th April to Fri 27 th May '22 May Day Holiday Mon 2 nd May '22 Term 6 Mon 6 th June to Fri 22 nd July '22 INSET DAY Fri 24 th June '22 Last day of term Fri 22nd July '22

Elmlea Infants 'Fun on the Field' Wednesday 7th July

Next week, the children in Elmlea Infants School will be taking part in their annual sports day, Fun on the Field! This event is weather dependent and unfortunately we are unable to invite parents to come and watch. Your



child's class teacher will take lots of pictures and videos of the day for you to watch and share with your children. The event will take place on Wednesday 7th July during the morning and the children will take part in lots of fun events which they have been practising in school. After their sporty morning, they will all receive an ice pop to refresh themselves before heading back to class. Please let your child's class teacher know if your child should not have an ice pop for any reason. We ask that your child arrives dressed in their PE kit with sun cream applied before school and brings with them a hat, a water bottle and a smile! Should the weather prevent us from conducting the event on Wednesday 7th July, we will reschedule to Wednesday 14th July. Best wishes, Holly.

Junior School Library re-opening!

We are excited to announce that the Juniors school library will be re-opening in September! We have loads of new books to share with you. To get us started, we need some help from Parent Volunteers to help us re-sort the books and tidy things up in the first week of the new term. We also need volunteers to assist with the ongoing management of the library on a rota system. Please email junior@elmleaschoolstrust.com as soon as possible to let us know if you are able to help out and to give us an idea of your availability. This will allow us to get your DBS sorted before the holidays.



Music

A number of families are asking about instrumental tuition from September. This week and next week the children will be watching pre recorded musical demos with teachers from BPM which aim to introduce the instruments on offer at Elmlea. On Friday 9th July, children in Year 2 will participate in a String workshop and hopefully be excited by it enough to want to begin one to one or group lessons, from September.



There are so many benefits to enjoy from learning an instrument, academically, emotionally, and socially. As the world begins to open up post Covid we hope there will be more opportunities for the children to play in ensembles, making music together. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need further information. Mrs Parkes

Request for noisy, colourful, moving toys!

We are on the lookout for good condition toys which are no longer used which we may use for Bucket Therapy Sessions? Some examples of the sort of toys we are after include:
| jack-in-the-boxes | singing / dancing or animatronic animals | wind-up toys that walk, somersault, spin around
| spinning tops | pop-up toys | indoor rockets | brightly coloured gossamer-light long strips of silky material | light-up toys | toys that make noises | toys with balloons e.g. balloon cars
| anything that lights up, flashes, moves, dances, makes sounds etc is fun!

Many thanks, Vicky Taylor (SENDCo)



Elmlea Christian Parents



We are a group of Christian parents at Elmlea who love the school and the work it does with our children. Whatever denomination you are, whether you go to church regularly or occasionally, or even if you're just interested to learn a bit more, we would love you to hear from you. We will be meeting at 9.00am on Friday 9th July on the grassy area on Brainsfield to the side of Westbury Baptist Church. Everyone is welcome! If you have any questions, please

contact Fiona at elmlea.christians@gmail.com



Elmlea
Schools' Trust

Year Group News

Reception

Reception have had a great week learning all about spiders, we have been writing about them, counting with them, crafting and creating them and learning so many facts. The children's favourite thing to do outside is bug hunts at the moment and we are seeing so many minibeasts! We have also released our butterflies this week. The children have really enjoyed learning all about the life cycle of a caterpillar to butterfly - look out on Tapestry for photos!

As the year is coming to a close, please continue reading with your child and

do let us know if you need any more books loaded to bugclub before the summer holiday period.

A gentle reminder for sun hats please as the weather is unpredictable and hot, sun hats are a necessity.

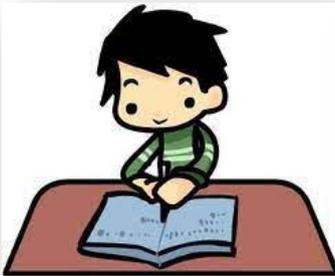


Many thanks The Reception Team

Year 1

This week we have been hard at work getting our Class Assemblies filmed. We're sure that you're going to enjoy watching them and the children are very excited to share them with you. In our English this week, we wrote some diaries as a way to practise spelling the days of the week. Some of the children wrote about some imaginary events, so don't be surprised if

they tell you that on Monday they dived to the bottom of the ocean to look for treasure! We've also been working on telling the time, so please find opportunities to read clocks and watches at home.



Year 1 Team

Year 2

This week the children have learnt a new story called The Tiny Crusader. It is a lovely story about a tiny knight and his garrison of soldiers seeking the help of a wise, old man to fix their weaponry ready for battle. The children loved this story and were able

to continue the story by writing the ending to it. We have also focused on using the

column method for addition and subtraction problems, this is tricky skill to learn but all children were so focused and were able to rise to the challenge of using the method. We are also getting very excited for our Sports Day next week so have been practising the different events in our PE lessons.



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Year 2 Team

Year 3

This week, year 3 have been putting the finishing touches to our explanations. Keep an eye out for them on Seesaw over the next week or so. In maths, we have been revisiting equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions and finding fractions of amounts. We were lucky to have an artist come in to help us with our colour matching and we linked this to our science work on plants. Did you know? Leaves aren't just green! In science, we have been checking on our beans and planted some cress to test the most suitable growing conditions.

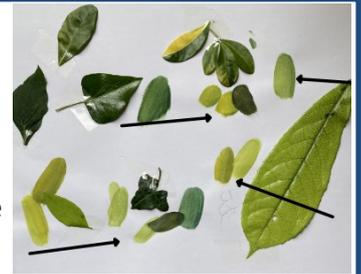
Well done to all those who took part in the year 3 TT Rockstars homework battle. After a nail-biting last day, the scores are in! Congratulations to 3G, who won by a narrow margin. Special mentions to Eddie (3G) and Frances (3W) who contributed over 1500 points to their class totals.



Year 3 Team

Year 4

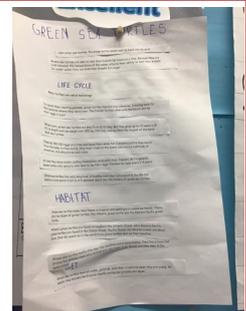
This week Year 4 have been influenced by the work of local plant artist Lou Wilmot when exploring colour mixing. Children were able to choose their own leaves to observe as a focus point for examining various hues of colour. Continuing with our plant theme, in Science, the children investigated the optimum conditions for plant growth using cress seeds. The seeds were placed in various conditions of water, light, and temperature inside and outside of the classroom. Next week, we will be looking at multiplication and division in Maths as well as completing our Non-Chronological reports on our own plant species in English. Well done for a great week. You've all worked very hard!



Year 4 Team

Year 5

In Year 5 this week, we have started our new English focus 'Information Texts'. We have made links from our Science unit Life Cycles and have completed research on an animal with an unusual life cycle. We look forward to writing our Information text next week. In Science, we have also been continuing to explore reversible and irreversible changes through heating, cooling and mixing. We enjoyed making casein plastic and inflating a balloon with bicarbonate soda and vinegar!



Year 5 Team

Year 6

WOW, what an amazing adventure year 6 have had at Oakhampton.

They have been submerged in chilly water, dangled from high ropes and wowed by some spectacular Dartmoor scenery whilst on bikes and walks. A short burst of rain couldn't dampen spirits as they challenged themselves and overcame fears.

They got well and truly stuck into everything, looked after each other and have had great fun. Well done year 6, you have made us all proud.



Year 6 Team