

Elmlea  
Schools' Trust

## Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 9 Friday 5th November

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you all were able to have a break from the usual routines last week and this provided a rest of sorts. Your children have definitely come back refreshed and recharged ready for Term 2 which is great. It has been a great start to the term with lots of events happening across year group.

Yr 2 very much enjoyed their visit from Bristol zoo who brought live creatures in, usually found in the rainforest which has really inspired them all for their new topic.

Yrs 3-6 have been enjoying their Shakespeare festival and Tuesday dress up day saw many Shakespearean characters arriving through the school gates! Toby Hulse from Bristol Old Vic has been in school running workshops with every class, which have been hugely appreciated by the children.

With firework night in mind we have reminded the children about keeping themselves safe especially using sparklers and ensuring their pets are kept indoors. I hope everyone attending any events has a very safe and happy bonfire night.



**Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher**

**Online Safety Evening** - We have had to cancel our online safety evening due to very low take up of attendance. We really would like to support you to know how to keep your children safe online at home and we will look to hold this event later on in the school year as we think the timing of the event may be the reason for low numbers.

**Covid** - Please ensure if your child is showing any symptoms that you take them for a PCR test immediately. There are testing sites very nearby and the results come back the following day. We are seeing increasing numbers of infections in schools which mirrors national figures so please be mindful of this. Please be advised that Lateral Flow Tests are not suitable for symptomatic testing, or for primary-aged children.

**No photos on the school premises** - A reminder to parents and carers to please refrain from taking photographs whilst they are on the school premises, even photos just of your own child as other children maybe in the background, we have children for whom this is a safeguarding risk.



### Inclusion Lead/SENDCo Job Opportunity

The governors of Elmlea Schools' Trust are looking to recruit an experienced Inclusion Lead/SENDCo to join our Trust, to start 1st January 2022 or as soon as possible thereafter.

More information and application details can be found [here](#)



### School Photos - Friday 12th November

A final reminder that the remaining year groups - Years 4, 5 and 6 - have their individual photos over the course of the morning next Friday 12th November.

All year groups sibling photos will also be taking place on Friday morning. The school will be arranging the logistics of this (wish us luck!)



### PTA News

As we approach Christmas, we have a busy time of year coming up – please see more details below:

**Winter Disco** Please don't forget to book your tickets for this! More details about our Winter Discos can be found in the links below:

- ★ The [Juniors Disco](#) is on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November
- ★ The [Infants Disco](#) is on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December



You can purchase tickets for both events [here](#)



**Christmas Cards** A sample of your child's beautifully drawn Christmas card will be going home this week.

You can now purchase cards and other products directly from the PTA [website](#). All orders need to be in by Friday 12th November.

### Happy Diwali

This week across the Trust, the children have been learning about Diwali in their assemblies. In the Infant school, Mrs Wright read the story of the Mr Men and Little Miss characters celebrating, Years 3&4 scored very well in a Diwali quiz and Year 5&6 found out that the festival is celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains. Happy Diwali to everyone in our Elmlea community who has been celebrating this week.



### Elmlea Schools - Fundraising for BBC Children in Need



We are dressing up in fancy dress or our own clothes on Friday 19th November because we want to help all children in the UK have a bright future. Children and adults across the Trust are invited to come to school in fancy dress or their own clothes on Friday 19th November in return for a donation to Children in Need.

You can donate to our JustGiving page by clicking [here](#)

## Music News - Exciting opportunity from Bristol Beacon for young brass players and guitarists!

Brass Sparks is a brand-new ensemble and is the first step into the amazing world of brass band playing for students. As a brass player, playing as part of a dedicated brass ensemble will enable young players to develop musicianship skills and will enable young players to come together form new friendships. Playing music from a wide range of genres, these young players will be given space to develop their skills, along with regular performance opportunities.

The group will rehearse every Wednesday during term time.

Rehearsals start on Wednesday 10 November at 4.15-5pm at Beacon Music Centre, BS10 5SJ. [Sign Up here:](#)

Guitar Sparks is a brand-new ensemble which embraces all styles and genres of playing for young guitarists to experience. Playing together is a fundamental part of developing musicianship skills and will also enable young players to come together to form new friendships. With skilled and dedicated guitar tutors leading this session, students will be able to compliment their guitar lessons by developing new and valuable ensemble skills.

The group will rehearse every Thursday during term time.

Rehearsals start on Thursday 11 November at 4.15-5pm at Beacon Music Centre, BS10 5SJ. [Sign Up here.](#)

Both Brass Sparks and Guitar Sparks are suitable for students in KS2 (or have recently joined Year 7) who are currently beginners to Grade 1/2. Ideally students should have been learning for at least a term before joining.

Both will run for 5 sessions at a reduced introductory rate of £15 for these sessions.

If you have any questions, please email [ella.foster@bristolbeacon.org](mailto:ella.foster@bristolbeacon.org) or call 0117 2047041



### French club

French club in the Infant School restarted this week on Wednesday afterschool. Reception children are welcome to join as well.

Please message Anna-Kate on [admin@clubs4kids.com](mailto:admin@clubs4kids.com) if your child would like to try it out. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Infant School Lunches

Thank you to everyone for getting set up on the new system. Anyone who has not done so yet, please ensure you do so as soon as possible. Don't forget you need to cancel your lunch if your child is absent from school. Please make sure you have made your bookings for next week. Also, please note in Week 3 on Fridays there are TWO types of fish fingers; salmon and pollock. If your child is not a fan of salmon, please ensure you chose the pollock fish fingers from the drop down menu to avoid tears at lunchtime!



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Term 2

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Nov to Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Dec

INSET DAY: Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Nov

**First day of term Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov**

Photos: Yr 4,5, 6 & siblings Fri 12th Nov

### Term 3

Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Jan to Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Feb

INSET DAY: Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Jan

**First day of term Weds 5<sup>th</sup> Jan**

### Term 4

Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Feb to Fri 8<sup>th</sup> April

INSET DAY: Mon 21<sup>st</sup> March

**Last day of term Fri 8<sup>th</sup> April**

### Term 5

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> April to Fri 27<sup>th</sup> May

May Day Holiday: Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May

**Last day of term Fri 27th May**

### Term 6

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June to Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> July

INSET DAY: Fri 24<sup>th</sup> June

**Last day of term Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> July**



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# Year Group News

**The top doodling class in the Infant School this week is... Oak class!**

## Reception



Reception have had a fun filled first week back! We have all been enjoying our new topics and have now all opened our brand new role play areas!

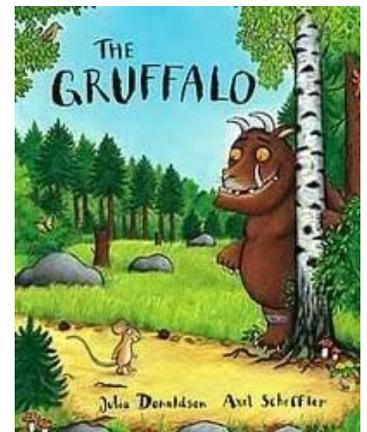
Please make sure that you have read the two letters sent from the Reception team on Monday.

Many thanks, The Reception Team

## Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic return to school this week. They seem rested and enthusiastic to get stuck back in! This week we have looked at the well loved story of the Gruffalo and written descriptive sentences using adjectives. Can your child tell you what an adjective is? In maths we have recapped last term's learning and have been looking at odd and even numbers. Ask your child to tell you the difference!

Year 1 Team



## Year 2

Welcome back everyone! We have had a really lovely first week back and we can't wait to share some of the exciting things we have been up to. With a very exciting bonfire night coming, we decided to create some very descriptive poems all about bonfire night that really capture event using our senses. It is safe to say that we were all very excited about the colourful displays in the sky! We also had our second WOW event of the year yesterday where the children were introduced to an animal expert. We also had a lizard, bull frog, ball snake and scorpion come along for the visit too. All the children loved this and were so lucky as they even got to hold and stroke the animals. We really feel like this has kickstarted our new 'Rainforest' topic and we can't wait to get started on our topic learning!

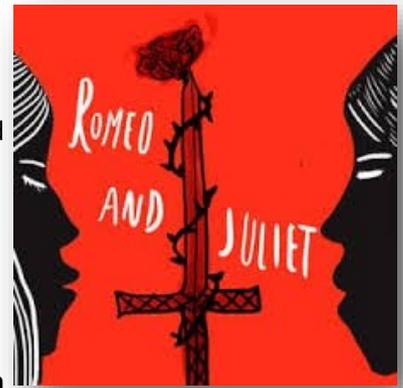


Year 2 Team

### Year 3

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed the first week of our Shakespeare module. The children looked fantastic in their fancy dress outfits! Year 3 are focussing specifically on, 'Romeo and Juliet.' We have learned and performed a version of the play, discussed the thoughts and feelings of the characters, learned and used Shakespearean insults and added in some direct speech for our writing. We have also started our new maths groups which is a change for this term for the children; the focus initially is on multiplication in each class. We must give a special thanks to James Watson who came in from a local Baptist church to talk to the children about religion and world views, which was followed up by a workshop.

Year 3 Team



### Year 4



Year 4 really enjoyed immersing ourselves into the Shakespeare week and the story of Macbeth this week. We did some retelling of the story as well as performing a scene from the story and creating our own spells too. The workshop with Toby Hulse was a real highlight and we took some great ideas from it to use in our writing. Next week in English we will be using Macbeth to write some setting descriptions and in maths we will be exploring perimeter.

Year 4 Team

### Year 5

This week in Year 5, we have thoroughly enjoyed starting Shakespeare week, getting into the spirit of things with some creative costumes for launch day. We are studying Macbeth, and we have been delving into the mind of this complex character with drama activities, including a workshop with Toby Hulse. We created a conscience alley to debate the dilemma central to the plot: did Macbeth do the right thing?



Year 5 Team

### Year 6

Year 6 have launched into their Shakespeare Festival like a 'tempest'! We have been engaged and enthralled by our drama workshops, retelling of the play and unpicking some wonderful language. We particularly enjoyed writing some insults using our homemade quills Thou art a beslubbering, milk-livered pignut. In maths we have begun a unit on measures by practically reading scales and converting between metric and imperial units. Our new science topic has begun with a 'flash' as we explored all things to do with light and posed some excellent scientific questions and theories.



Year 6 Team