



Elmlea
Schools' Trust

Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 16 Friday 7th January

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you have all been able to have a break over the holidays and I'm sure there are many treasured memories you have created for your children by being together as a family over the holiday period.

In school, we have had a really positive start to Term 3. The children have especially enjoyed the launch of their new topics in every year group, which is fantastic as our teachers spend a lot of time planning topics and activities that they hope will inspire and enthuse your children to learn.

Covid

Unfortunately we are all still grappling with the impact of Covid and working our way through this. Thank you to you all for responding to our request for all to wear masks on site, as well as keeping your children home if they are unwell or showing symptoms. In order to reduce the number of additional adults on site please also ensure, if possible, any messages etc are sent via email.

This week we have had only a few members of staff out with Covid related absences. Thank you to our staff who have covered both teaching and support staff absences. Please be aware that if a member of staff is absent, there may be different staff covering the absence, whilst we will try and provide continuity of staff for the children, this may not always be possible.

Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher

Latest COVID-19 government and school guidance

Self-isolation advice has changed. It is now possible to end self-isolation after 7 days, following 2 negative LFD tests taken 24 hours apart. Latest government updates can be found [here](#). Please also see the home page of our website for info.



- Families are advised to carry out daily LFD testing of any identified close contacts.
- Please do not send your children in if they are displaying any COVID 19 symptoms (high temperature, new and persistent cough or any change or loss of sense of smell or taste)
- Parents & carers are asked to wear masks whilst onsite at drop off and pick up, unless they are exempt.
- Please be aware that if teachers become ill and their child is self isolating in that class, there may be a lag in the preparation and feedback of remote learning.
- As of Tuesday 11th January, asymptomatic cases with a positive LFD test result do not need a PCR and can follow the above guidelines with regards to isolation.
- Please only inform us of any POSITIVE tests using the absence line, then email info@elmleaschoolstrust.com with full details including the date of the positive test, likely return to school date and any siblings.
- If your child is unwell with something other than COVID please do not send them in to school as we will call you and ask you to collect them.

We are doing everything we can to keep your children safe and to minimise the risk of infection whilst keeping our school open so please support us by following the above guidelines.

Revised COVID 19 Risk assessments can be found here: [Infant RA](#), [Junior RA](#) and on the school website.

Epiphany - the feast of the Three Kings -Thurs 6th January



A day celebrated by Catholic and Orthodox Christians around the world. Junior school children learned about some of the different ways the day is marked in Europe and South and central America in our assembly, with some pupils sharing the celebrations they have enjoyed at home over the last few days. We hope everyone in our Elmlea community who celebrated had a lovely time with friends & family.

Online Safety Training for Parents and Carers - protect and support your child online Thurs 17th Feb 6-7:30pm

Many parents use technology widely today but, despite understanding its uses and risks, still worry about what their children do online. Most children will manage their online lives well and build their own coping mechanisms just as they do with real life threats. Despite this, they do often use technology and services in different ways to adults - which is where insecurity and worries can form

Run by a South West Grid for Learning expert, this session provides parents with an insight into popular technologies and how young people utilise them. Demonstrating the massive benefits and potential pitfalls, the interactive presentation provides parents with advice, strategies and resources to help them understand and engage with their child's online lives in a healthy, positive, and productive way. Our pupils will be undertaking a survey beforehand so that their understanding of technology can be focussed on during the session.

When: Thursday 17th February 6-7:30pm | **Where:** Infant School hall | **Cost:** £5*

To book your place, log into your SCOPAY account (*discounted rate available, for more information, email us at info@elmleaschoolstrust.com)



World Book Week

We will be celebrating World Book Week this year and are looking for any authors or people whose line of work is within Literature that would be willing to come in and talk to our children. If you know of anyone that would be interested and willing to help us inspire a love of reading during World Book Week then please email

bryony.brooks@elmleaschoolstrust.com Many thanks, **The English Team at Elmlea**



Term 3 Teacher-led after school Clubs started this week in the Junior school and will run up to and including the last week of term (except in the case of staff absence, when you will be informed) otherwise). Please be advised that if your child has been allocated a space, they are expected to attend every week unless they are unwell. Unfortunately we are unable to accept any more requests to join. **Thanks, the School Office**

French club back on Wednesdays this term



We will be meeting in person at the Infant School for Reception, Year 1 and year 2 from 3:15-4pm and also via Zoom for Years 1 to 3 at 4:15pm and Years 4 to 6 at 5pm Click [here](#) for more details and for booking information.

Helen O'Grady Drama Academy classes

Fun drama classes held at Elmlea Junior School (and other venues) are designed to improve speech and language skills whilst boosting confidence and self-esteem. Children take part in a variety of creative activities which are language, movement and drama based. In the summer term all students take part in a production which is performed at the prestigious Redgrave Theatre! Fees are £108 for a 12 week term. Weds 5-6pm (age 4-8) and 6:15-7:15 (age 9-11)

To book your child in for a free trial, get in touch bristol@helenogrady.co.uk 077780 46951. More info can be found [here](#) and a full timetable [here](#).



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Tues 4 th Jan to Fri 18 th Feb	Mon 28 th Feb to Fri 8 th April	Mon 25 th April to Fri 27 th May	Mon 6 th June to Fri 22 nd July
Tues 18 th Jan - Yr 6 SATS & Camp Info evening 6-7pm	Weds 2 nd March - Yr 2 SATS evening 6pm	May Day Holiday: Mon 2 nd May	INSET DAY: Fri 24 th June
Parents Evenings - w/c 7th Feb	INSET DAY: Mon 21 st March	May	Day Off in lieu of Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday: Fri 22 nd July
Thurs 17 th Feb - Parents Online Safety Evening	Last day of term Fri 8th April	Yr 6 SATS w/c 19 th May	Last day of term Thurs 21st July
Last day of term Fri 18th Feb		Last day of term Fri 27th May	

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

Reception

Welcome Back! We hope you have all had a wonderful break. The children have come back so well, ready to learn and with lots of energy. If you haven't already then please read our Term 3 letter sent to you at the end of last term.



This week we have enjoyed listening to the children's stories of their half termly break and have also opened our new role-play areas which the children have thoroughly enjoyed.

As the temperatures are getting colder now please ensure your child has a hat, coat and gloves in school each day (all named please). We would also recommend them wearing additional layers of clothing such as vests and long sleeved t-shirts to ensure they are warm.

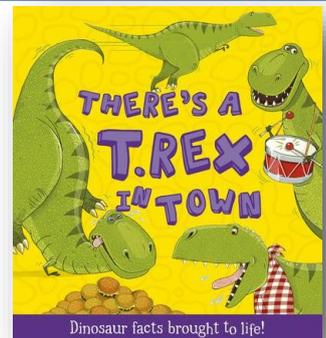
Many thanks, The Reception Team

Year 1

Happy New Year! It has been wonderful to see all of the children returning looking well rested and ready for the exciting things to come. So far this week the children watched some CCTV footage that showed we had a jurassic visitor over the holidays! We have also begun learning the story T-rex who Came to Town and the children have wowed us with all their knowledge.

In maths this week the children became witches and wizards and wrote spells to practice their number bonds to 10 and 20!

We have also been thinking about what skills we need to become a scientist. This week we thought about 'observing carefully' and did an experiment using pipettes. Can your child tell you what happened when we dropped water on to a coin?



Year 1 Team

Year 2

Welcome back year 2! We hope that you and your families had a wonderful break and a very special Christmas. We have really enjoyed our time in school this week. We have kickstarted our new Myths and Legends topic through reading extracts and thinking about what we want to find out about the magical creatures. We have also started our new maths topic: multiplication and division and have started to practise our 2, 5 and 10s times tables, see if you can practise at home!

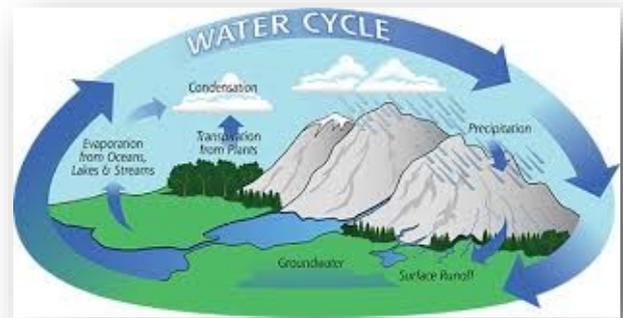


Year 2 Team

Save the date: Year 2 Sats Information Evening - Wednesday 2nd March @ 6pm in the Infant Hall.

Year 3

We welcomed back the children this week after the Christmas break. Our new topic this term is, 'Splash,' which will see the children look at the geography of different rivers around the World, consider the water cycle and discuss oceans. As our introduction the children learned about our local river The Trym, where the source is and how it meanders downhill to join the River Avon. We also used paints and water guns to make splash art for our topic books. Maths and English started this week - place value in the former and looking at a text called, 'Once Upon a Raindrop,' for the latter.



Year 3 Team

Year 4

Year 4 had an exciting start to the new term with the launch of our Splash! topic. The pupils climbed aboard their pirate ships, scrubbed the decks, climbed the rigging, and sang some sea shanties. As well as this, we have explored the features of a river and the key vocabulary around this. In maths we have begun a short unit on statistics before moving onto fractions next week where we will be working on tenths and hundredths.



Year 4 Team

Year 5

What a great start to Term 3 we have had in Year 5! This week, we enjoyed the Launch Day for our new Topic, On The Latin Side: As part of our day full of activities, we explored maps, pieced together jigsaws, researched and created fact files, listened to songs, made some ancient Nazca art, and even danced the Salsa - phew!



Year 5 Team

Year 6

This week, year 6 have enjoyed diving into their new topic 'On The Latin Side'. They have begun learning the countries and capital cities of South America, created fact files and made their own map of the continent for display. They also put into practice their hours spent watching Strictly in a fantastic salsa dancing workshop which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Finally, they have explored and crated their own Nazca lines based on the ancient carvings in Peru and begun a new English writing unit based on persuasive speeches. Well done for an excellent start to the term!



Year 6 Team

Year 6 Information Evening - SATS and Camp

Early in the new year, we will be writing to you with details for our year 6 summer camp. In addition, on **Tuesday 18th January from 6-7pm**, we will be running an information evening to provide you with further details and give you the opportunity to ask any questions. We will also be using this event to share details of the upcoming year 6 SATS (in May) and how you can support your child in the build-up to these statutory assessments. Please complete this brief [form](#) to confirm your attendance at the event. We hope as many of you as possible can attend.