



Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 20 Friday 4th February

Dear parents and carers,

Our celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) this week has been a huge success. Every year group across the Trust have had exciting projects to work on and the children have been so enthused and engaged in all the activities planned for them. The celebration of the STEM subjects, we hope will have a lasting impact on many of our children and for many may define their future careers. A big thank you to our STEM teams for their planning and preparation for the week and especially to our science subject leaders Mrs Wilson, Mr Friesner and Miss Cooke for leading the way for our Trust.

Lunchbowl Network – It has been great to have the Lunchbowl [network](#) in school this week.

Anna- Kate from the network joined our assembly slots across the Trust and all the children have now heard about the vital work the charity are doing in Kibera in Kenya by providing lunch and education to so many children. To raise money for this cause, there will be stalls run by the children from our School Councils on both sites before and after school selling little key rings and soapstone animals next week. The network can provide 3 meals for the children in Kibera for every £1 spent.

Elmlea Infant School has already provided 12,000 lunches through their fundraising over the years and it is exciting to think how many meals we could provide with both schools raising money for the charity. Thank you Ms Emery-Symons and Ms Bateau for organising our continued link with Lunchbowl Network

Parent-teacher meetings

Our parent –teacher meetings remain online next week rather than in person, as a result of your overwhelming request for the meetings to be virtual. We understand how convenient this is for families as you don't have to organise childcare and parents working can join in from other locations. However, as our teachers will have upwards of 15 zoom meetings back to back throughout the evening, the meetings cannot run over time. If you think what you want to talk about will take a lot longer, please book another time to talk to your child's teacher. Although the meetings are 10 minutes long there is a lot of information that can be shared in this time and we hope you find them useful.

Some parents have said that they are waiting for the parent's evening to discuss a situation in school that is upsetting their child. Please do not wait for the meeting. We would want to know as early on as possible if your child is unhappy, so we can resolve it for them. A day in a child's life is a long time if they are unhappy and by talking to your child's teacher it can be resolved quickly.

Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher

Diary Dates

2021/22 Academic year

Term 3: Tues 4th Jan to Fri 18th Feb

Parents Evenings - Tues 8th & Thurs 10th Feb

Parents Online Safety Evening: Thurs 17th Feb 6pm

**Remember to book your spot via SCOPAY*

Term 4: Mon 28th Feb to Fri 8th April

Yr 2 SATS Evening: Weds 2nd March 6pm

INSET DAY Mon 21st March

Term 5: Mon 25th April to Fri 27th May

Term 6: Mon 6th June to Thurs 21st July

INSET DAY Fri 24th June

2022/23 Academic year

Term 1: Thurs 1st Sept '22 to Fri 21st Oct '22

INSET DAYS Thurs 1st & Fri 2nd Sept

(first day back Mon 5th Sept)

Term 2: Mon 31st Oct '22 to Fri 16th Dec '22

Term 3: Tues 3rd Jan '23 to Fri 10 Feb '23

INSET DAY Tues 3rd Jan

Term 4: Mon 20th Feb '23 to Fri 31st March '23

INSET DAY Mon 20th March

Term 5: Mond 17th April '23 to Fri 26th May '23

Term 6: Mon 5th June '23 to Fri 21st July '23

INSET DAY Fri 23rd June

FREE EVENT!

Our parents & carers online safety information evening on 17th Feb will now be FREE OF CHARGE! Spaces are limited so please book onto the evening asap via Scopay to secure your place.

When we have run this session in the past, it has been very well-attended and attendees have declared it extremely valuable.

We use technology widely today and most children will manage their online lives well, building coping mechanisms just as they do with real life threats. However, they 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 and carers 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. **When: Thurs 17 Feb 6-7:30pm | Where: Junior School Hall.**



Book your FREE spot via Scopay NOW!

Children's Mental Health Week - express yourselves

A reminder that 7-11 February is Children's Mental Health Week. Supported by Place2Be, the theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is 'Growing Together'. Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas, with others through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make you feel good. In addition, to activities happening throughout the week at school, pupils are asked to help raise awareness during the week **by posting a photo/video on Tapestry and Seesaw** of them expressing themselves by Fri 11th March. Teachers will view all contributions and celebrate every child in school. Remember it is all about sharing the things that make us who we are and feel happy. You may choose to **dress in your favourite colour** or **choose a colour which expresses how you're feeling** as well. Either way it is a chance for the children to express themselves and we look forward to seeing what they produce!



Coronation Cup Football



Last Friday, eight year 6 boys took part in the second round of the prestigious Coronation Cup football competition. Thanks to Elmlea's close partnership with Rockleaze Rangers, we were fortunate enough to play the match at Coombe Dingle where the boys put on a fantastic performance to run out 12-0 winners against Luckwell Primary School. Well done to all the boys for representing the school brilliantly and playing the game in the right spirit. A particular mention also goes to those players that filled in at the last moment to cover for injury and absence. Elmlea are currently bidding to retain the historic trophy that they previously won in 2019.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Consultation

A reminder that we are reviewing our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our provision meets the Government criteria and is appropriate for our children. We would very much welcome your support and comment. Here's how you can help. Please find our current policy [here](#) and a letter with more information [here](#) and return any comments or questions for our review via the school office at info@elmleaschoolstrust.com before midday on Thurs 10th Feb.



Lunchbowl Charity - School Stall



This week Lunchbowl [charity](#) visited children across the Trust during assembly. As in previous years, next week School Council will be running a stall selling some lovely items to raise money for the charity.

There will be a stall in both Infants & Juniors after school on Tues 8th Feb from 3.15-3:30pm and then before and after school on Wed 9th, Thurs 10th & Fri 11th Feb at 8.30-8.45am and 3.15-3.30pm (Infants & Juniors).

Sales are cash only so don't forget your gold coins!

Le Club Français

Children are most welcome to join us on Wednesdays afterschool at French club. As you will know, there are many benefits to learning a language at a young age such as

- ◊ Improving social skills and confidence
- ◊ Supporting key language and listening development
- ◊ Encouraging curiosity for different language and culture

It's also great fun and the club is packed full of games and songs. If your child would like to try it, please email Madame Fuller on admin@clubs4kids.com If your Junior child would like to come along to a zoom afterschool French club to give them the extra confidence and language skills please do get in touch.



Calling budding bakers between 9-12 years old!



Applications for the 8th series of Channel 4 Junior Bake Off have recently opened. Filming would take place from July 2022 applications close on Sunday 13th March 2022. Please find more information about this exciting opportunity [here](#). Interested bakers can apply [online](#).

Chinese New Year Reminder

On Mon 7th February, children across the Trust may wear something **red** or **gold** or traditional clothing if appropriate to celebrate Chinese New Year.



Teacher led after school Clubs

These teacher-led clubs will run in the Junior school next week. Please ensure you let the School Office know if your child is unable to attend. If they do not show up, we are required to initiate our Missing Child Procedure, which could ultimately result in a call to the Police if we are unable to contact you. All teacher-led clubs finish at 4:15pm will run



Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
Mixed Netball Yr4	Choir Yr3-6	Mixed Hockey Yr3	Boxercise Yr3-6	
Mixed Basketball Yr6			Instrumental Yr 3-6	
Homework Club Yr3-6				

up to and including the last week of term (except in the case of staff absence, when you will be informed as soon as possible). 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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Help for young carers



Many young carers who are children do not consider themselves to be a carer – they are just looking after someone in their family who needs help and getting on with what needs to be done. In order to care safely and remain in good health young carers need information, support, respect and recognition.

If you think your child may be a young carer, we would like to be able to support them so please let us know. If you would like to speak to the school in confidence, please request a meeting with either Mr Daubney or Mrs Sloper - who can be contacted via info@elmleaschoolstrust.com More Information can be found [here](#) about a support agency in Bristol for young carers..

Information for parents about private fostering.

If you are thinking about placing your child with someone who is not a close relative for 28 days or longer you need to tell us. This is private fostering. You should do this six weeks before the arrangement starts, or immediately if it has already started. (It is an offence not to notify the local authority that you have placed your child with a private foster carer). You will need to complete our form 'Notification of private fostering arrangements, declaration to privately foster children and permission to request information' or ring your local office (see below). We will offer advice and help you to make the best arrangement for the child. Please click [here](#) for info.

The top doodling class in the Infant School this week is... 2V!!

Reception This week Reception have learnt the digraphs oo/oo and oa and have been learning that the numbers from 5-10 are comprised of 5 and some more.



Because it is STEM week (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) at Elmlea you will see lots of exploratory experiments on Tapestry that have taken place over the course of the week; ask your children about the parachutes and



balloons we looked at to find out all about air resistance and the pull of gravity!

We have also had a 'Firefighter Focus' so we have been looking at and talking about the fire service education boxes that we were lent to us by Avon Fire Services.

Many thanks, The Reception Team

Year 1 It has been STEM week this week and Year 1 have fully embraced it. For science, Year 1 have been absolutely enthralled by learning about Mary Anning! We have looked at fossils and imagined what it would have been like to discover a fossil. I think we have a lot of future paleontologists! For technology, we have continued to program our BeeBots by making them go forwards and backward. For engineering, Year 1 worked really hard in groups of 3 to follow instructions to build a wheelbarrow! Finally in maths we have continued to practice our times tables this and learnt about arrays. Phew!



Year 1 Team

Year 2

This week it has been STEM week in school, and we have becoming engineers and scientists in various ways! We started out the week by exploring state of matter and whether this could change when temperature is altered.



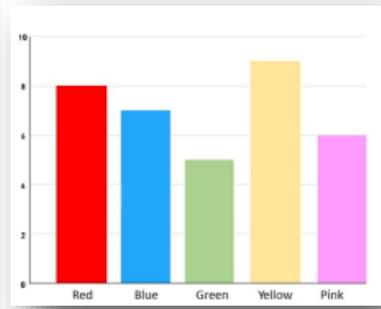
We carried out an investigation and wrote up our findings. We also became engineers this week and had to work in teams to create spectacular boats, we had to think carefully about selecting the materials we used and had to follow instructions to ensure our boats were strong!

Save the date: Year 2 Sats Information Evening - Weds 2nd March @ 6pm

Year 2 Team

Year 3

It has been STEM week in Elmlea and Year 3 have been considering the science of floating, which links with our 'Splash' topic. The children built a prototype raft and tested how much weight could be carried on it before it capsized. They were then tasked with building a boat to support as much weight as possible out of a limited amount of materials - paper, card, cling film, tin foil and bubble wrap. As a class we then tested each boat, with the children carefully selecting how much weight they wanted to add each time and where on the boat that they would put it. There were some excellent designs, and the children loved the process. Our maths has linked with the STEM week, as we used the data gained from our experiments to learn how to carefully represent the result in a bar graph.



Year 3 Team

Year 4

Year 4 have been enthusiastically exploring STEM. We created a racetrack scene using computer science, designed our own version of the 'Bloodhound' car and followed a brief to design our own Mars Rover. Prototypes of these were then created in groups as the children displayed good teamwork skills. In English we have been continuing with Kensuke's Kingdom with the children producing lovely writing from it. In maths we have finished our unit of time and can see lots of children wearing watches which is helping to build their confidence with telling the time. Next week we will be covering geometry with angles and triangles being a key focus.



Year 4 Team

Year 5

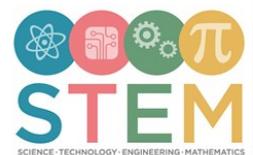
This week in Year 5 we have been having a STEM-tastic time investigating the world of Science, Technology, Maths and Engineering. At the beginning of the week, we worked in teams to design, create and test some out some rockets. We learned all about thrust, aerodynamics and air resistance, and used what we learned to build a rocket that would fly as far as possible. At the end of the week, we also enjoyed some STEM-themed Golden Time activities, creating magic fountains and balloon-powered hovercrafts. What a great week of exploration and discovery!



Year 5 Team

Year 6

What an amazing STEM week we have had in year 6 this week! With the theme of transport it involved all of the four areas: science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The children started the week with an explore and inspire session in which they had to think like scientists and experiment using a selection of equipment. They used their findings from this session to create enquiry questions, make predictions and to plan an investigation to attempt to answer this question whilst factoring in all of the types variables. They then worked hard to carry out a fair test, gathering results and then used these to draw up a scientific conclusion. The children loved collaborating in groups and having the freedom to select their own enquiry and organically developed their understanding of forces and energy. Later in the week, they took part in a roller-coaster competition in which they attempted to build the most complex, working roller-coaster (in the form of a marble run of sorts) in order to transport their marble. We are hoping that many of our children will be inspired to pursue a career in a STEM subject in later life. **Year 6 Team**



**** Reminder: deposit for Year 6 camp is now overdue. Please go to Scopay and make a payment as soon as possible. If you are in contact with school regarding support for payment we will be in touch with you shortly regarding this. ****