

Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 25 Friday 24th March 2023



2022/2023 Academic year

Term 4:

Mon 20 Feb - Fri 31 March '23

Year 4 Productions

Mon 27 March - Matinee

Tues 28 March - Evening show

Term 5:

Mon 17 April - Fri 26 May '23

Early May Bank Holiday

Mon 1 May '23

King's Coronation Bank Holiday

Mon 8 May '23

Term 6:

Mon 5 June - Fri 21 July '23

INSET DAY Fri 23 June

2023/24 Academic year

Term 1:

Fri 1 Sept - Fri 20 Oct'23

INSET DAYS Fri 1 & Mon 4 Sept

First day of Term Tues 5 Sept

See [website](#) for full 2023/2024
Academic year dates

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a lovely week in school with many enrichment activities taking place.

The highlight of this week was our four school choirs performing on Wednesday evening, in which nearly 200 children from across both schools took part. Our Infant and Junior choirs took part, as well as our boys choir and chamber choir. What a celebration of singing!! The children sang their hearts out and delighted us all. A big thank you to all our choir leaders and especially Miss Sadler our Music teacher, who ensures it all takes place.

Sengalese drumming workshops As part of our French curriculum enrichment, our Junior children were all treated to an African drumming workshop yesterday which the children dressed up for and thoroughly enjoyed as they learnt French vocabulary along with drumming techniques. It was a really joyful experience for the children and thank you to our French teacher Madame Turvey for organising it.

Mystery readers Thank you to our many parents who have visited the Infant school as mystery readers. The children love the excitement of wondering who it will be coming to read to them and they love hearing new and well loved stories, which continues to promote that love of reading we want for all our children. Thank you!

Next week we can look forward to a ukelele performance by Yr3 to parents, the Yr4 production and a focus on Easter across our assemblies.

Ramadam Kareem Ramadam has started for some of our families and we also know that some of our older children have chosen to fast during this time. Please let us know if there is anything further we can do to support any children who are observing Ramadan during this time.

Yr7 destinations Please click on [here](#) if you would like to see where our children in Yr6 went to for their secondary schools last year. This was shared at the Yr3 September 2023 parent's morning but is also on our website.

**Lorraine Wright,
Executive Headteacher**





Year 6: Fundraising superstars!

Year 6 – you should be super proud of yourselves as you have raised over a whopping £2,200 for Leukaemia Care. This means Elmlea can definitely sponsor a unicorn and be part of Unicornfest. Look out for more details in the summer...

Music News

A massive well done to all who performed in Wednesday night's spring choir concert. We were blown away by the performances of all four choirs: junior, infant, chamber and boys choir. Sadly, we also had to say goodbye to our chamber choir leader, Miss Roberts and also to Mr Heaps who leads our boys choir. We wish them all the very best and will miss them greatly. A special mention goes to Eleanor in 6LS who played a flute accompaniment to one of the songs.

New piano - we now have a very smart Yamaha digital piano in the Lodge for piano lessons. Thank you to Ben in year 3 who is modelling it beautifully on the photo!

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 4th May - Infant choir trip to Bristol Grammar school for the KS1 Summer Sing

Tuesday 20th June - Orchestra workshop

Tuesday 27th June - Junior choir trip to The Beacon for the KS2 Summer Sing

Wednesday 5th July - Orchestra concert here at school in the evening 6.30-7.30pm



Miss Sadler, Co-ordinator of Music

Francophone Dance Event!

On Thursday Year 5 and Year 6 learnt African dance and about living in Port-au-Prince in Haiti all in French. Louis from Cameroon taught them super dance moves and the children got into the spirit of the dance with face paint and costumes. In their classrooms the children found out about life in Haiti using a French language programme.



KS1 Writing Competition - 'I became a Superhero for a day!'

Wow! How did you become a Superhero? What super powers did you have? What did you get up to during that special day? Tell us by writing either: A story, poem or newspaper report. It can be handwritten or typed, but should be no more than 500 words in length. It should be all your own work.

Please return your paper entry to your class teacher with your name and class clearly

marked by **Monday 17th April 2023**. Good luck! Miss Winday-bank



NW24 is a network and partnership of schools in North and West Bristol, collaborating to ensure the delivery of the highest possible quality of education for all pupils. This year they have set a writing competition for the children to enter.

School Emails



Please make sure you use the info@elmleaschoolstrust.com email address and not the old ones (infant@elmleaschoolstrust.com and junior@elmleaschoolstrust.com) the old addresses no longer work and are not monitored.

Please could you also remember to check your junk or spam folders regularly for communications from staff members. Over the February half term we had some work done on our email system and some members of staff are finding that their emails are now routinely going to people's spam, which means that key communications are being missed by parents and carers.

Ramadan

Thursday marked the start of Ramadan, a holy month for Muslims across the world. Many Muslims will fast during daylight hours, donate money to charity and pray more frequently during this time. The month ends with the celebration of Eid ul Fitr. The dates of Ramadan change each year as it is based on the lunar cycle.

You can find out more about Ramadan [here](#).



Nowruz



This week, Nowruz - the Iranian or Persian New year - was celebrated by many people around the world. This festival marks the start of spring and takes place around the time of the Spring Equinox on 21st March. We hope that anyone in our Elmlea community who celebrated had a lovely time with friends and family.

Red Nose Day



Thank you to all who donated to Comic Relief to mark our Red Nose Day last Friday. The total raised at time of writing stands at £911. Can we make it to £1000? You can still donate to our JustGiving page [here](#).

Shine Clubs for Terms 5-6 and Easter Holiday Clubs

Bookings for Shine After School Clubs running from April through to July at Elmlea [Infant](#) and [Junior](#) School in terms 5 and 6 open next Wednesday 19th March at 11:00am. All booking are on a first come first served basis.

[Infant bookings](#) [Junior Bookings](#)

Details of Holiday Clubs running over the Easter Holidays can be found [here](#).



Little Dragons kung fu at Elmlea Infants

Teaching kids positive life skills.

After another great term, we have a handful of spaces available for Little Dragons kung fu at Elmlea Infants next term.

Every Tuesday, 3.15 – 4.15pm in the Infant school hall.

It is open to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

The class is taught by Sharon Gill (7 x World Kickboxing Champion and 5th degree kung fu black sash) and Dan Blythe (4th degree kung fu black sash).

All new starters get a free trial session. After that it is £7 per session, payable at the

start of each term.

To book your trial sessions or for more information please click [here](#) or email enquiries@iamgbfit.com.



Fine Art & Craft Club at Elmlea Junior School in Term 3

Fine Art Club on Tuesdays starting Tuesday 18th April in The Lodge.

Cost £48 (6 weeks)

Craft Club on Wednesdays starting Wednesday 19th April in Class 3B.

Cost £48 (6 weeks)

Both run from 3:15-4:15pm To guarantee a place, please contact Rasa via email rasa.ashworth@live.co.uk Or click [here](#) for more information.



Elmlea Schools Trust Teacher-led After School Sports & Music Clubs in Term 4 & 5

The Clubs running in Term 4 are:

Mondays - **Year 3&4 Netball**

Tuesdays - **Junior Choir**

Thursdays - **Infant Choir**



Teacher-run after school clubs in Term 5 Cricket club for Years 5&6 – please can parents who have been contacted with a confirmation letter this week confirm their child's place by signing up their child on Arbor by 10am on Wednesday 29th March so we can finalise the register. Please note this club is now at full capacity so we cannot accept any more requests to join.

These after school clubs are led by Elmlea teachers and we do not charge for them. They are subject to cancellations due to staff availability and also weather and pitch conditions, which can be particularly affected at this time of year. Please bear this in mind when booking your child on to one of these clubs. Shine or Elizabeth's After School Club are also available as paid clubs that are guaranteed to run, rain or shine!

Please always ensure you let the School Office know if your child is unable to attend as 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.

Inclusion Information and Support

Coffee with the SENDCO!

This is a chance to have an informal chat with the Trust's Inclusion Lead, Lacey Flook, and Infant SENDCO, Jess Andrews, about anything SEND related! You do not need to have a child with any specific needs, you may just have questions or concerns or want to find out a bit more about what we do to support children across the trust and other services we work with. These drop-in sessions will be held in the Junior library on the following dates, 2pm - 3pm, finishing in time for school pick-up! If you have children in multiple year groups then you are welcome to attend more than once or choose a date that suits you best.



Friday 21st April - Year 6 with Lacey
Friday 28th April - Year 5 with Lacey
Friday 5th May - Year 4 with Lacey
Friday 12th May - Year 3 with Lacey
Friday 19th May - Year 2 with Lacey and Jess
Friday 26th May - Year 1 with Lacey and Jess
Friday 9th June - Year R with Lacey and Jess

ERIC, the Children's Bowel and Bladder Charity -Toileting

Lots of parents (and children!) voice concerns to teachers and staff about issues they have toileting – from night-time enuresis (bed-wetting) to worries about using school or public toilets. ERIC, the Children's Bowel and Bladder Charity is the UK's leading charity supporting all children and teenagers with a bowel or bladder problem. They have lots of [resources](#) to support parents and children with any toilet related worry.





Year Group News

Reception

Reception have been learning about the meaning of 'past' 'present' and 'future'.

In school they have been looking at photographs from the past, discussing how things were different and also looking at objects from the past. They have also been imagining how different things might be in the future!

Weekend challenge:

Can you find something in your house that is from the past? Send us in a photo of it as a post on Tapestry...

You might find an object from the past that is different to what that object looks like now or you might find a photograph of something or someone in the past.

Please send them in by Wednesday 29th March so that the children can stand up and share them with their classmates before the half term break. We hope you enjoy looking back and discussing this topic with your child.



The Reception Team

Year 1

This week in Year One we have been learning to innovate stories, learning how we can change and adapt them to make them our own. Can your child tell you which famous and

popular children's story we've read this week, and how they plan to change it? It involved a large, stripy carnivore that surprisingly arrives at a young girl's house, looking for snacks. We've planned to swap this animal for another carnivore, one that has been extinct for millions of years. Can your child help you work out what it is by describing it to you using adjectives and similes? We have also continued to introduce division and have practised solving division calculations and word problems by sharing objects fairly between groups, as well as using our times tables to help us. A huge well done to 1C for performing your Class Assembly this week - you were amazing! Lastly, please remember to always bring a coat to school each day!



Year 1 Team

Year 2

In Year 2 this week children have been continuing to learn about features of a diary and have taken part in hot seating to imagine how people might have felt when the fire started spreading. In maths we have been investigating measure in cm and m. Children have been ordering lengths and using addition and subtraction to solve problems. Using our sketching skills, we sketched spring flowers in art and added tone and texture to make them look realistic. Our science topic has continued and we have been exploring materials and discussing their properties. During golden time, children were given the opportunity to mix with the other classes in their year in preparation for their transition to the Junior School.



Year 2 Team

Year 3

In Year 3 this week we have been creating our own creatures to write instructions about. This work is a continuation of the instructions we have been writing for the creature 'Fenir' in the text 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' and will be published in our Writing progress books. We look forward to sharing our creatures and creative instructions with our Year 6 buddies next week. In Maths we have been looking at angles/amounts of turns. We have learned about right, acute, obtuse and reflex angles and applied our knowledge using compass directions. In Science, we conducted a fair test to see which of the different types of magnets we had in our classroom were the strongest.



REMINDER: We are all looking forward to our ukulele performance on the afternoon of Wednesday 29th March.

Performances will take place in the hall as follows: **3M: 1.20pm** **3B: 2pm** **3V: 2.40pm**

Year 3 Team



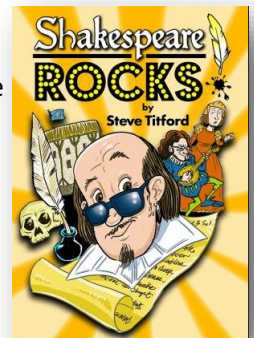
Year 4

Year 4 have had an exciting week which culminated in a successful dress rehearsal to the whole school this afternoon. Thank you to parents and carers for your support in providing fantastic costumes for all of the children. The professional photographer took some lovely photos yesterday. In English, pupils proudly published their explanation texts about volcanoes as their writing progress pieces. In maths, pupils have started their unit on money and have continued to practise their times tables. Brilliantly, all Y4 children are going to have their eco-poems published in an anthology. Our Religion and World Views work this week included continuing the theme of people who inspire us. Well done, Year 4!

Reminders - Production performances in the Junior School Hall

Matinee - Monday 27th March at 2pm (please arrive from 1.45pm).

Evening - Tuesday 28th March at 6pm (children to return to classrooms at 5.40pm).



Year 4 Team

Year 5



This week, Year 5 have enjoyed completing their DT projects! We were so impressed by their resilience and their brilliant team work. They have done a wonderful job; the toys look amazing and we are looking forward to sharing them with our buddies! We also took part in an exciting French dance workshop organised by Madame Turvey. We loved dancing and getting into traditional African clothing. Look out for the videos on See-saw! We also enjoyed learning about life in Haiti and France in our French lesson. The children also completed some great auditions for parts in our summer production, 'Treasure Island', which we will begin rehearsing after the Easter holiday.

What an exciting week Year 5!



Year 5 Team

Year 6

This week, year 6 have impressed visiting parents with their very professional tours of the school. They also got to see Year 6 working incredibly sensibly and independently on their DT projects - making wooden moving toys for their Reception buddies. We are looking forward to presenting them over after Easter. On Thursday we thoroughly enjoyed a French African Dance Workshop which involved, costumes, face paints and dancing (and of course some French) - it was such a treat. Thank you for organizing it Madame Turvey.



Year 6 Team