

Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 26 Friday 31st March 2023



2022/2023 Academic year

Term 4:

Mon 20 Feb - Fri 31 March '23

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

Sports Days:

Mon 3 July Years 5&6

Tues 4 July Years 3&4

Weds 5 July Infant School

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,

As we come to the end of Term 4 there is so much for us to celebrate. Your children have responded with such enthusiasm to every learning opportunity we have provided. Every child should feel so proud of all they have achieved and the progress they have made. A big thank you to our wonderful Elmlea staff team who make it all happen.

Inevitably, at the end of term, everyone is ready for a change of pace and children and staff alike, having given so much in school are looking forward to a well deserved break.

We hope you have an opportunity to have time as a family together and we look forward to seeing your children return, refreshed and ready, for all the summer term has to offer.

Reception Trip - Our super Reception children had a lovely visit to the Baptist Church this week. Although not travelling far, ninety Reception children, leaving the school gates always requires a lot of extra planning and support. Thank you to all our volunteers who came to help out and to the Reception team for making it happen.

Bristol Old Vic - Bristol Old Vic theatre team visited yr5 this week to take inspiration from our children on what it means to be Bristolian and find out what the children love about Bristol. Bristol Old Vic will return in the Summer, ready to perform a play inspired by the children's responses. This is an amazing experience for our children, who feel very privileged to be part of this creative process!

Ukelele Concert - Every child in Yr3 has had ukulele lessons this term and this culminated in a very accomplished performance to parents this week. We hope this has inspired our children to learn an instrument and thank you to Miss Sadler who wants to capture and continue this enthusiasm by running a ukulele club in the Summer terms.

Yr4 perform Shakespeare Rocks - I have shared below an email from a parent, thanking the Yr4 team, as well as summing up how fabulous this performance by Yr4 was.

"I wanted to send a quick message to say how utterly amazing we thought the year 4 performance was last night. The kids had an energetic, happy vibe and I think it's probably the most enthusiastic, performance I've ever seen. It will be a happy memory always. Thank you so very much for all your hard work. "

Yr4 also have raised over £240 for their chosen charity Turkey- Syrian earthquake disaster fund. Thank you for all your kind contributions to this.

Lorraine Wright,
Executive Headteacher

Music News

This week we have been starting to learn the new songs for our KS1 and KS2 Summer Sing in both infant and junior choir clubs. We are thoroughly enjoying the new songs. More information to follow.

A massive well done to all our guitarists who performed beautifully in singing assembly. Also, to Dan in Year 5 who played the piano as we entered the hall (pictured).

All of the year 3 classes finished their ukulele course with a performance to parents/carers this afternoon. Don't forget, there is an opportunity to continue learning the ukulele in Miss Winter's Wednesday lunchtime club. If you are interested, please contact me or her directly.

And of course, the year 4 performances have been a rip-roaring success, too!



Miss Sadler, Co-ordinator of Music

Spring celebrations

Pesach (Passover)

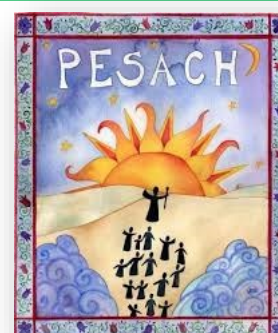
On Tuesday, Dr David Jewell from the Bristol & West Progressive Jewish Congregation visited the Junior school to deliver an assembly about Pesach (Passover). The first night will be celebrated on 5th April this year, remembering the time when Hebrew slaves were led away from Egypt by Moses. The celebrations feature the Seder plate with six special symbolic items. You can find out more about Pesach [here](#).



Easter

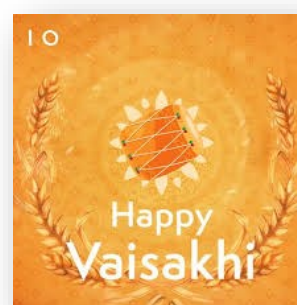
On Thursday, James Watson from Westbury Baptist church led the Junior assembly with a focus on Easter and its importance for Christians. Across the school, children have been learning about different aspects of Holy Week and Easter in their Religion and Worldviews lessons, including how the event is celebrated in different countries around the world. You can find out more [here](#).

Happy Easter to all our families celebrating Easter next weekend.



Vaisakhi

On 14th April, the Sikh community will be celebrating Vaisakhi. Originally a harvest festival, it is now used to commemorate the founding of the Khalsa in 1699, you can find out more [here](#). Years 3 & 4 will be learning more about Sikhism during the summer terms and will be visiting one of the four Sikh gurdwaras in Bristol.



We hope that everyone who is celebrating these festivals over the next two weeks has a special time with friends and family.



PTA Notes

Amongst other plans, we're busy preparing for Elmlea PTA's Great Coronation Raffle! If you think you could donate a prize we'd love to hear from you. Perhaps you have a box at Ashton Gate Stadium, run your own baking company, or could donate your gardening expertise for an hour? Alternatively, might your company like to sponsor some of our big-ticket items? Do get in touch!



188 of you already support the school via easyfundraising – thank you! For everyone who signs up [here](#) before the 31st March we will be entered into draw to win from a £2,000 prize fund. It only takes a moment and it's completely free, so please get involved if you haven't already!

We look forward to seeing you for our Quiz night in May and the kids' discos in June; more information on tickets and how to volunteer to follow next term. Wishing you all a great Easter break.

Thanks – Jen, Tina, Lucy, Joy, Tripta, Debbie, Verity elmlea.school.pta@gmail.com

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

The Clubs running in Term 5 are:

Tuesdays - **Junior Choir**

Thursdays - **Infant Choir**

Fridays - **Year 5&6 Cricket**



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.

Elmlea Schools' Trust Trustee Recruitment



We have three vacancies for Trustees to join the team. These are voluntary roles that require attendance at an early evening meeting each Term as well as additional committee / project meetings.

We are fortunate to have a wide range of professional skills within our local community and we wish to draw upon this by recruiting people with experience of:

- * HR
- * ICT
- * Education
- * Finance



Whilst we currently have needs in these areas, we absolutely welcome applications from across the entire community regardless of experience and it is particularly important to us that our team of Trustees represents the diversity of our local community. So, if you have enthusiasm, commitment, are naturally inquisitive, seek high standards and are prepared to get involved then this is for you.

More information can be found [here](#) or email clerktrustees@elmleaschoolstrust.com to register your interest by Friday 28th April.

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

Slow your PACE...

School holidays present opportunities for quality family time and outings but with lots of time spent together, naturally some behaviours can escalate and everyone can get a little frustrated so communication skills dissolve... PACE stands for Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity and Empathy and it is an approach to managing behaviour developed by Dan Hughes, a clinical psychologist specialising in the support of children who have experienced abuse and neglect. Although this was basis of his approach, it is widely used by parents and professionals alike as a way of supporting children with their behaviour in any situation. The following websites have information about the approach and how you can use it in everyday situations. [Help Children Live Better](#) and [DDP Network](#)

P is for Playfulness
A is for Acceptance
C is for Curiosity
E is for Empathy

As stated on the first website, PACE is a way of thinking, feeling, communicating, and behaving that helps a child feel safe. It helps to promote secure attachments and enables a child to reflect on their thoughts and behaviours without being judged. It can help to 'unpick' behaviours. So, if you do find yourself in a stressful situation this Easter, try to remember to slow your PACE!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Spring into Easter Nature Hunt - Children's half term holiday event on Fri 7 April.

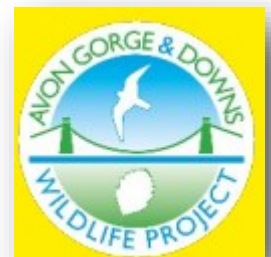
Take part in a fun Easter hunt on the Downs! Discover which mini-beasts are emerging in springtime and find out fascinating facts about them. Hunt amongst our trees for pretend birds' eggs hidden away, build a nest and receive a chocolate egg each as an Easter prize. To finish our session we'll be colour hunting and collecting beautiful natural finds to decorate a card egg to take home for Easter.

10.00am – 12.00pm, £5 per child

Suitable for families with children aged 4 – 9 years.

To book call: 0117 4285300 or go to <https://avongorge.org.uk/whats-on/>

More information can be found on this [flyer](#).





Year Group News

Reception

HALF-TERM CHALLENGE!

Can you create a mini Easter or Spring garden?

Take a look at the pictures attached for inspiration. Try and be as creative as you can by using different materials or even better recycled materials to make your mini garden.

Please make a plan of your garden by drawing what you want to include and labelling it.

Your garden should include signs of Spring and involve cutting and sticking as a creative project.

Please bring your mini garden and plan to school during the first week of Term 5 so that we can showcase them to your friends!

Good luck!



The Reception Team

Year 1

Year One, we are so proud of you! Our special visitors were so impressed with your learning attitudes and behaviours and how lovely you were to chat to. It was great to be able to share with them all the work that you have been doing this week. This week we've been practising division and multiplication using the 2s, 5s and 10s times table and applying it to money problems. Perhaps you could find some odd bits of change at home to practise with.

We also finished our innovated story about the T-Rex who came to tea, so perhaps your child could share with you how their story ended, even if it was quite gruesome! For DT we designed and made some healthy wraps, which were super tasty. It's a shame that the children couldn't bring them home for you to sample, but they didn't hang around for long. Yum!

Have a lovely holiday, Year One.



Year 1 Team

Year 2

What a busy week we have had this last week of term! Your children have been amazing and shown off our school values brilliantly whilst we had our visitors. They should be really proud of themselves for representing Elmlea so fantastically.

We have been studying and exploring volume capacity in maths, can your child tell you what we measure volume and capacity in and what both words mean? In English, we have been publishing our diary entries from the Great Fire of London after editing and improving them. The children sketched some fruit in art and also created some Great Fire of London paintings with silhouettes. Enjoy a lovely break and we look forward to seeing Year 2 in April.



Year 2 Team

Year 3

It is the end of Term 4 and what a term it has been a busy one! Year 3 have loved their topic 'Around the World' and learning about various different countries and traditions. This week we focused on volcanoes and Iceland, We learned many interesting facts about this country such as they have one of the highest life spans in the world and that many people in Iceland believe in elves. Did you know roads have even been rerouted to avoid elven lands?

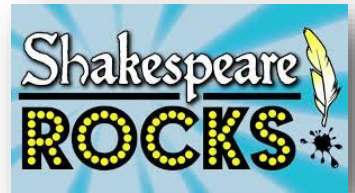


We enjoyed our annual Easter service presented by Year six pupils. In addition, we welcomed parents to our own ukulele performance to show off the skills we have developed over the past two terms. In English we have been revisiting and reinforcing our basic skills this week and in Maths we have been learning more about the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and making nets!. Have a wonderful Easter break everyone and we look forward to welcoming you back in Term 5 when our topic will be 'Wonderful Westbury!'.

Year 3 Team

Year 4

We were incredibly proud of all of Year 4 for Monday's matinee and Tuesday's evening performances of Shakespeare Rocks by Steve Titford. The children told the story convincingly, acted and sang with passion and looked wonderful in their costumes. The link yet for the Year 4 production professional photographs will be emailed out early next term.



In English, pupils have written letters to loved ones to share their highlights of Term 4. In maths, children have continued their learning about money. In Religion and World Views, pupils have learnt about the Easter Story, Easter symbols and about different Easter celebrations around the world. In DT, children have worked diligently on their 'Controlled Buggy' project and have demonstrated their designing, making and evaluating skills together with their knowledge and understanding of electricity. Thank you to parents and carers for your support in helping us to raise a total of £420.00 to date for the DEC. Well done, Year 4!



Reminders - Poetry anthology permissions.

Year 4 Team

Year 5 This week in Year 5, we really enjoyed a drama-based workshop delivered by The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School that helped us to think about Bristol and what it means to belong. It was great doing freeze-frames (or tableaux) to represent the positives and negatives of life in Bristol. We look forward to watching the play they are going to write for each class. This also helped us to look forward to next term's topic. In English we developed our skill of writing formal letters, we hope you enjoy reading our letters about what we have been learning in Term 3 and 4. We discovered that we have had two very busy terms with many memorable occasions, such as Red Nose Day and World Book Day, as well as a number of exciting workshops. In Maths, we spent a few days on statistics, developing our ability to read tables and even draw our own line graphs. One of the most exciting parts was having our very own Oscars to celebrate the animations we made about deforestation. It was really interesting to watch other people's work. And finally, we said goodbye to Miss Killick, and we are excited to welcome Miss O'Toole to 5M next term! Have a lovely Easter Break Year 5! We look forward to seeing you in Term 5!



Year 5 Team

Year 6 Year 6 have had a really fantastic final week of term four. As our science topic 'Evolution and Inheritance' has come to a close, we have been leading an enquiry into how humans can adapt to their ever-evolving surroundings, thinking closely about the term 'survival of the fittest'. To lead us into the holidays in style, year 6 performed an Easter Service to the whole school on Monday, where they depicted the story of Jesus and his resurrection.



Well done year 6- what a triumph!

Year 6 Team