

Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 11 Friday 24th November 2023



2023/24 Academic year

Term 2

Tues 31 Oct to Fri 15 Dec '23

Winter performances see below

National Winter Jumper Day

Thurs 7 Dec

Rec, Yr 1, Yr 2, Yr 3, Yr4

Christmas Lunch

Tues 12 Dec

Yr5 & 6 Christmas Lunch

Weds 13 Dec

*Wear a festive jumper for your
Christmas lunch*

Term 3

Tues 2 Jan- Fri 9th Feb '24

INSET DAY Tues 2 Jan

First day of term Weds 3 Jan '24

Term 4

Mon 19 Feb to Thurs 28 March

INSET DAY Mon 18 March

Term 5

Mon 15 April-Fri 24th May

May Bank Holiday Mon 6 May

Term 6

Mon 3 June - Tues 23 July

INSET DAY Fri 28 June

Last Day of Term

Tues 23 July

See [website](#) for more info.

Dear parents and carers,

Today, our **Junior school choir** will travel to the Bristol Beacon (renamed Colston Hall) to be part of the celebrations for its grand reopening. The choir have been practising for this event, their singing is glorious and we are so proud of them. Tonight, they will perform in front of a live audience including parents. Thank you to all who have made this happen which includes the Junior choir team; Miss Sadler, Miss Leach and Mrs Quinnell.

Reception September 2024 – don't forget the deadline for applying for a reception place is January 15th 2024, please find the link to the Bristol City Council application page [here](#).

Request for donations via class WhatApps - Class WhatsApp groups are set up by parents and not run or directed by the school however, sometimes we are made aware of communications via these channels that are unknowingly putting parents under pressure.

We all are very aware there is a cost of living crisis which is impacting many within our community. With regards to well meant requests for donations via whatsapp, parents should never feel embarrassed about not giving or supporting these, as a community we all understand circumstances are different for everyone and how difficult this is. Please can we politely ask parents not to share if they have been fortunate enough to be able to donate.

Lorraine Wright, Executive Headteacher

Date and times reminder for Reception, Yr1, Yr2 & Yr3 Winter performances



Year 3 - Mon 4th 1:45pm and Tues 5th Dec 6pm

Year 2 - Tues 5th 9:30am and Thurs 7th Dec 2pm

Year 1 - Tues 5th 2pm and Wed 6th Dec 9:30am

Reception - Wed 6th 2pm and Thurs 7th Dec 9:30am

We look forward to seeing you in the Junior School hall. Booking forms have been emailed out and spaces are filling up fast with some performances already at capacity. The allocation is **TWO tickets per child** and you can choose which performance/s to attend.



Music News

Winter Sing: Junior choir are performing with several other schools as part of a massed children's choir in the new Beacon Hall tonight! We are all very exciting to be part of this historic event, as we will be one of the first groups to perform in the recently refurbished hall.

Orchestra, junior choir, chamber choir and boys choir will be performing in a special Christmas assembly on the last Tuesday of term. At this event the rest of the school will be singing along with some of the carols. It is not open to parents, but we will attempt to make an audio recording so that you can share in our celebrations.



Miss Sadler, Co-ordinator of Music

Teacher-led after school clubs in TERM 3 - clubs deadline



A reminder that the deadline for expressing interest for your child/ren to join an Elmlea teacher-run after school club in TERM 3 is **9.00am on Monday next week (27th November)**.

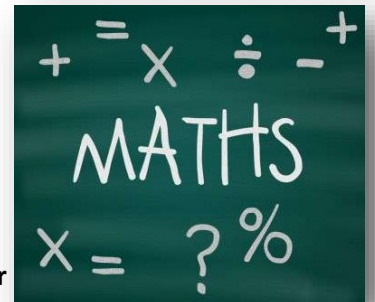
Please note we are unable to accept any late requests after this time due to the admin time involved in setting up these clubs.

Expression of interest in a KS1/KS2 maths information evening.

Following the success of the recent KS1 information evening, we would like to find out if there is interest in a KS1/KS2 maths information evening.

Please complete this [Microsoft Form](#) if you would be interested in attending.

Many thanks, Mr Weller

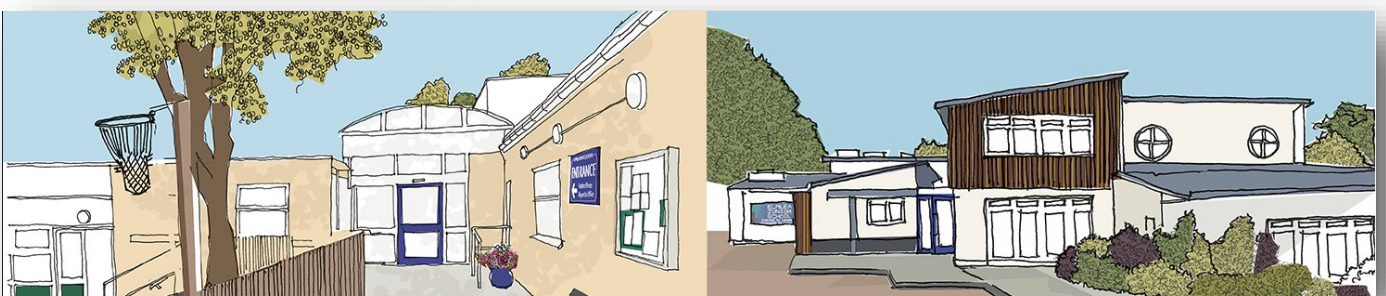


Science Week 2024 - Thanks you!



Thank you to all of the parents who have very kindly offered to help during our forthcoming Science Week 2024 - Connections! Your response to our request for volunteers has been very much appreciated and this has helped us to plan a very exciting week of enrichment with links to sustainability.

Mrs Wilson, Miss Cooke & Mrs Smith



A reminder about attendance, reporting absences and planned absences

If your child is absent for any reason, a message should be left on the school answerphone **by 9.15am**. Please call each day of absence and give some details of the reason why they will not be attending (not just 'unwell' or 'won't be in'!)

Elmlea Infant School Absence Line 0117 3772352 press button 1

Elmlea Junior School Absence Line 0117 3772266 press button 2

(Please note that these are answerphones. All absences should be reported on this number each day your child is unwell)

Reporting



Absences

Requesting planned absences during Term Time The parent application form for Leave of Absence during Term Time can be found at the end of our [Trust Pupil Attendance Policy](#). This should be completed for any planned absence (with the exception of medical appointments or secondary school visits) and submitted to the School Office **at least 3 weeks in advance** and you will be informed whether or not it has been authorised. Full details of pupil attendance and procedures can be found in our [Trust Pupil Attendance Policy](#).

Please note we cannot authorise term time absence for holidays except in exceptional circumstances such as families who are part of the armed forces etc. It is very important that your children are in school every day. We take school attendance very seriously and have a team of people in school who monitor your child's school attendance and, where needed, we also have the support of the educational welfare team from Bristol. Please see the below [School attendance leaflet](#) for more information.

Elmlea Christians Meeting

We are a group of Christian parents at Elmlea who love the school and the work it does with our children. We aim to support the staff, pupils and parents. If you are new to the school or have been here a while, we would love to meet you.



Whatever denomination you are, whether you go to church regularly or occasionally, or even if you're just interested to learn a bit more, we would love you to join us on **Friday 1st December at 9.00am** at the Infant School reception. Feel free to bring younger children if you have them with you. If you have any questions contact Fiona at movetobristol@gmail.com.

Inclusion Information and Support

Parent Carer Nurture Groups for parents/carers of neurodiverse or disabled children - January 2024

Starting January 2024: 8 sessions to build emotional wellbeing and friendship amongst a small group of SEND parents. Places are free, we welcome donations. For more information and to book, click [here](#) or visit the website www.murmurationcommunitytherapy.com



MURMURATION
COMMUNITY
THERAPY

New SEND Parent Carer
Nurture Groups



SUPPORT THE PTA

Christmas Hamper Time

Thank you to everyone so far for signing up for hamper donations and thank you to the class reps for organising. Don't forget to buy your tickets to be in with a chance to win one of the 42 hampers. Tickets can be purchased anytime until 10 December at www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa.

The draw will be on the 11th December.

Cake sale - Friday 1st December - all items £1

This terms cake sale will be held on Friday 1st December after school between 3.15 - 3.45pm under the infant canopy. All items £1 each. Cash and card available.

Hot drinks will be available at the **Nativities** - *bring your own mugs!*

CHRISTMAS at ELMLEA

We are very excited to welcome you to our 'CHRISTMAS at ELMLEA' evening on Thursday 7th December. Please arrive at the Junior School Car Park between 5-7pm to collect your pre-ordered Christmas Trees, Puddings & Gingerbread Houses.

Whilst there, why not take the opportunity to purchase festive chocolates, candy canes, reindeer food and hot chocolate cones.

Treat yourself to a warm drink and snack, whilst keeping your eyes open for the big man himself!

Rumours have it that Santa and his very special elf helper will be making an appearance - grab a family photo in your Christmas jumper with them if you can.

Please remember to bring a bag for all your goodies, plus a reusable cup. See you there.

There are still a few Christmas trees left to pre-order and collect on Thursday 7 December www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa

A local company called ALI & JOE'S have offered Elmlea £5 for every tree bought from them or rented using the code *ELMLEA5* at checkout. They even deliver straight to your door! www.aliandjoes.com



Christmas Jumper Swap

Reduce fabric waste this Christmas

- * Swap your outgrown Christmas / winter jumpers, for pre-loved ones
- * Drop your jumper off in the uniform shed, and take one away between 1st - 7th December
- * If you would like, and are able to make a donation to the PTA, please use the QR code on the door
- * Happy swapping

* If you're shopping the Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales, please make sure you use [Easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.com)

* Over 7,000 brands will donate, so you can raise a FREE donation for Elmlea Schools' Trust Association every time you grab a bargain! **So far we've raised £1,545.15!**



Best wishes, The Elmlea PTA
elmlea.school.pta@gmail.com



Elmlea
Schools' Trust

Year Group News

Reception

Thank you to everyone for sending in the children's reading logs everyday - this is really helpful!

We are busy rehearsing for our Nativity performance coming up!



The Reception Team

Year 1

We have had a great week in Year 1! We thought about what non-fiction writing is and what its purpose is. We then wrote some non-fiction facts about foxes considering the structure of a sentence as well. In maths, we have continued to think about how we can partition numbers in different ways and have been working in a systematic way to do so. In our wider curriculum, we have explored using paint in technology and have explored the free hand tools and in art we have started creating beautiful charcoal owls! We have been very busy practising our performance and have been working hard to learn our lines. Please keep practising at home! **Reminder:** All costumes will need to be in school by **Wednesday 29th November**.



Year 1 Team

Year 2

We have been busy with rehearsals for our production and they are going well. Please continue to help the practising at home so they can speak loudly and clearly.

We have also been doing more persuasive writing and will be sharing some soon. In our geography lessons, we discussed why the rainforest is important and learned some interesting facts.

You may have received a very important letter from your child this week persuading you to keep our playground litter-free. If you fancy a weekend challenge, can you write a reply to your child? We would love to know if our

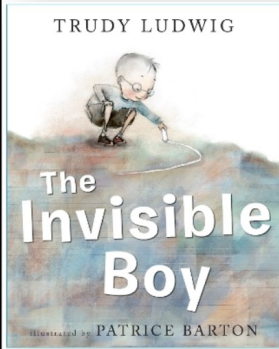


persuasive skills did their job!! You could post them on Seesaw or bring them in so we can have a look!

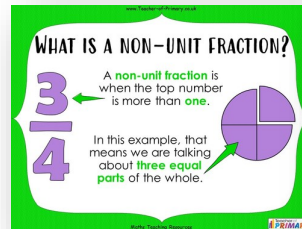
Thank you, Year 2 team

Year 3

Children in Year 3 have had a brilliant week of slightly more intensive rehearsal as the scripts have now gone! Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support with helping learn lines and lyrics and also providing the wonderful costumes and props which are coming into school. In English, we have started our diary writing unit, inspired by *The Invisible Boy* by Trudy Ludwig which links to our



Antibullying theme from last week. Pupils have discussed the themes in class to gain an empathy with the main characters, enabling an invaluable emotional connection with their writing. In maths, children have explored and consolidated their knowledge and understanding about unitary and non-unitary fractions. They now have a much greater understanding of how their knowledge of the times tables helps in this regard. We have continued our learning about rocks in science by investigating the different properties of rocks and then thinking carefully about how this links to their uses.



The Year 3 Teaching Team

Year 4



This week in Year 4, we have been busy planning for our biscuit making lesson next week. We cannot wait to finally make our biscuits after a lot of careful research and planning.

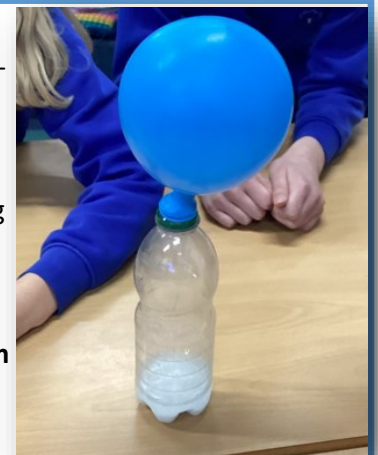
In Science, we have been learning about our teeth and did an experiment on what drinks make our teeth decay quicker.

In our English lessons, we have started planning our biographies about an Egyptian Pharaoh.

Y4 Teaching Team

Year 5

What a week! Year 5 have been busy writing their non-chronological reports on daily life in ancient Greece. In maths, we have been learning to read and interpret tables and graphs. In science, we enjoyed finding out about chemical reactions by mixing bicarbonate of soda with vinegar and watching balloons blow up with the carbon dioxide created by the chemical reaction! We have also been busy designing our thrones for our DT project and on Monday afternoon, Iris and David from the Bristol and West Progressive Jewish Congregation came to talk to us about their faith.



Year 5 Team

Year 6

In science, we accurately explained how periscopes use mirrors to change the direction of light through 90 degrees. Did you know, periscopes were used in WW1 and 2. We studied different forms of punishment around the ancient world and tried to decide if the Greeks were cruel barbarians or ruling in the same way as everyone else at the time. We can now confidently multiply and divide with fractions and we are equipped ready to write our Ancient Greek newspapers next week. During our PSHE lessons, we talked about challenging stereotypes and how we should celebrate being wonderfully different.

Year 6 Team

