

# Elmlea Schools' Trust

## Newsletter Issue 9

### Friday 10th November 2023



Elmlea  
Schools' Trust

#### 2023/24 Academic year

##### Term 2

Tues 31 Oct to Fri 15 Dec '23

**National Winter Jumper Day**

Thurs 7 Dec

**Rec, Yr 1, Yr 2, Yr 3, Yr 4**

**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  
'24

**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,

A big thank you to the many parents who attended our **Yr1 and Yr2 information evening** this week. Our KS1 teaching team covered in detail and overview of how we teach reading, writing and maths and also how parents can help support learning at home. Feedback has been that parents found this very useful. If you were unable to attend all of the slides and resources can be found on our website on your Year group pages: [Year 1](#) and [Year 2](#).

**Remembrance assembly** – Our Yr6 children led the Junior school assembly on the theme of remembrance this morning which was very moving and they all should feel very proud of their contributions. In the assembly children read poems they had written as well as explained the symbolism of the poppy. A special thank you to Alvar (yr6) who played the Last Post which was very brave as it was a new piece for him at the start of the week.

#### **Odd Socks day Monday 13 November and anti-bullying week**

Odd Socks day will kick off our anti-bullying week from 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November with the theme "Make a Noise About Bullying". Children can come in wearing odd socks on Monday to celebrate what makes us all unique!

#### **Children in Need 17th November**

We will once again be supporting children in need this year and to show support the children can wear spotty or bright clothing on Friday 17th November if they would like to. The link to donate to children in need is [here](#).



Lorraine Wright,  
Executive Headteacher

#### **Job Opportunity - Elmlea Schools' Trust Business Manager**

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an enthusiastic and innovative School Business Manager. This is an excellent opportunity for an outstanding and self-motivated practitioner to join our team of highly experienced and supportive staff, to help shape the Trust's future strategy ensuring that the Trust continues to develop and improve.

Full Time 08:30 to 16:30 Monday to Thursday, 08:30 to 16:00 Friday 37 hours per week all year round. For more information and to apply, click [here](#)



### Reminder - Anti-bullying week, Children in Need and Infant School Bedtime Story



We have a busy week here at Elmlea next week, with lots to keep track of so here's a quick re-cap!

**Monday 13th November** Odd Socks Day - Children can wear odd socks with their school uniform.

**Thursday 16 November** All Infant children are invited to a bedtime story at school, read by their class teacher on Infant School Bedtime Story 4:30-5:00pm to raise money for [Children in Need](#).

**Friday 17th November** Children in Need - Children can wear something **spotty** or **bright**. Please donate online [here](#).



### Music News: Young Voices

Year 4 children are working hard to learn the songs for this exciting event in January. Please can you help them to learn the songs and the words by setting up an account in the Young Voices Music Room by following this [link](#).

Miss Sadler, Co-ordinator of Music

### Science Week 2024 - CONNECTIONS! 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

We are delighted to launch the theme of Science Week 2024 - CONNECTIONS! We are currently planning the timetable of enrichment for children throughout the Trust. We would be most grateful to any parents who work within the STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Maths) disciplines and allied professions who would be prepared to share their expertise with our children during this week. This parental link had been incredibly successful in the past and the children are always very proud of the parents who are able to come into school and represent their professions and passions and also inspired by them, demystifying scientific stereotypes. Our aim is to include the theme of sustainability also and any parents who work in this field would also be very welcome into school. Please email:

Infant and Y3/4 parents - [sarah.wilson@elmleaschoolstrust.com](mailto:sarah.wilson@elmleaschoolstrust.com)

Year 5/6 parents - [helen.cooke@elmleaschoolstrust.com](mailto:helen.cooke@elmleaschoolstrust.com)

Sustainability volunteers - [lucy.smith@elmleaschoolstrust.com](mailto:lucy.smith@elmleaschoolstrust.com)



With grateful thanks, Mrs Wilson, Miss Cooke & Mrs Smith.



### What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Microtransactions

Seventy-six billion dollars 💰👾 That's the value some experts have assigned to this year's global online microtransaction market – those additional in-app and in-game purchases which offer young players a temptingly quick way to enhance their digital experience for real-world money.

With concerns over the impact of allowing these paid-for upgrades to be available to children, some countries have already either banned microtransactions or subjected them to stringent legislation. Click [here](#) for this week's [#WakeUpWednesday](#) guide which outlines the most significant risks.

### Junior School Yellow House Cake Sale Friday 24th November

Please get baking for the Yellow House Cake Sale on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Cakes should be delivered to the Junior School staffroom door on the Friday morning.

Cake Sale will take place outside the Junior school staff room at 3:15pm.

**Please note that we are a cashless school and will only be accepting contactless payments.**



## medicaltracker

### Medical tracker - New First Aid Incident Notifications

As you know we try very hard to keep parents regularly informed about first aid incidents at school. Sending paper notifications home can be rather 'hit and miss' with notifications often going astray along the way. We are also increasingly aware of the substantial cost, time and environmental impact associated with the amount of paper associated with this.

To help make improvements in these areas we have decided to use a service called **Medical Tracker**. Medical Tracker not only allows us to inform parents/ carers of first aid incidents by email but it also allows us to analyse the data we record.

We sent an email about Medical Tracker earlier this week to all parents which includes lots more information, please refer to the email and also see [here](#) for what the emails will look like.

**Please be assured that if we ever have any concerns about your child following an incident, we will always phone you – we would not rely on emails.**



## Inclusion Information and Support

### Supporting Inter-parental Conflict Project

Now available for solo parents, in cases where the other parent does not want to partake. This is a great opportunity of support for parents/carers (separated or together) who are experiencing intense, frequent, and unresolved inter-parental conflict and have a child aged between 8 and 14 years. The help on offer will either be Mentalization Based Therapy with a couples therapist or One Plus One Relationship Support online sessions. Click [here](#) for more information.

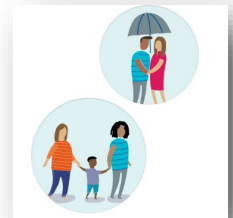


### Relationships Matter courses

Please find details on how to book onto the Parenting When Separated course that Relationships Matter are running in January. This course runs for 6 weeks with a taster session, there is an evening course and a daytime course so a parent attends a different course to their co-parent. Parents can sign up by following the link on the [flyer](#).



Details of other Relationships Matter courses can be found [here](#).



### Raising Awareness and Understanding of ASD in Our Community

This week's inclusion section has a focus on ASD or Autism. Here are some links to videos and information if you would like to learn more about this area of need:

[Autism: What is it? - BBC Newsround](#)

[Good Autism Practice Guidance | Autism Education Trust](#)

[What is neurodiversity, how do we celebrate it, and what does neurodivergent mean? - BBC Newsround](#)



## Community News

### Golden Hill Cricket Club inclusive SEN and disability winter cricket sessions

[Golden Hill Cricket Club](#) are running inclusive SEN and disability winter cricket sessions on Sunday mornings from 10-11am. The free sessions are for junior school age children onwards and are held at the Shine Sports Hall in Henleaze -contact [russ.fry@goldenhillsports.com](mailto:russ.fry@goldenhillsports.com) for more details.





## SUPPORT THE PTA

Get ahead with your Christmas organisation & order your festive items here: [www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa)  
The deadline for ordering personalised items with your child's design is this evening (Friday 10th November) and orders cannot be accepted after this date.



Also, please join us for a drink in the Infants school hall during bedtime stories on Thursday 16th November (4.30-5pm). All monies collected will go to Children in Need.

Christmas Card Printing Workshop - Get creative and join us for an evening

Thursday 23 November @ Grupo Lounge, Westbury-on-Trym, 19:30 – 21:30. Tickets are £25 (recommended age 12+ due to intricate nature of the workshop). All children must be accompanied by an attending adult. Spaces are limited, pre-book only at [www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa)

Best wishes, The Elmlea PTA  
[elmlea.school.pta@gmail.com](mailto:elmlea.school.pta@gmail.com)

### Remember to use Easyfundraising when shopping online! We raise funds and it won't cost you a penny!

You can turn your everyday online shopping with over 7,000 brands into FREE donations for Elmlea Schools' Trust Association?! So far over 200 supporters have raised a whopping £1,507 for our schools!

And now, the benefits are even greater... Shop 5 times and collect 5 stamps to enter a monthly prize draw to win a donation of up to £3,000. There's no catch or hidden charges!

If you still haven't yet signed up use this [link](#)



### No bikes or e-bikes please!

Recently there have been both electric and push bikes being ridden in the playground by adults, so we would like to remind parents and carers that cycling (adults or children) is not permitted on the school premises at drop off or pick up times due to health and safety reasons.



Thank you for your co-operation with this.

### We need your socks!

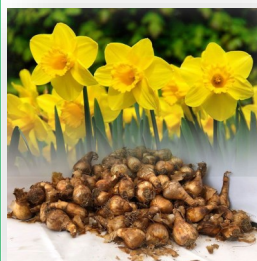
We are in need of spare, good condition socks (particularly for year 5 & 6 children)  
If you have any spare socks in Size 12.5-3.5 and/or Size 4-7. Please bring them to the Junior office, thanks!



### Thanks for spring bulbs!

Thanks very much for the bulb donations.

We would like to say a special thanks to [Blaise Plant Nursery](#) who donated over 100 daffodil bulbs!





# Year Group News

## Reception

Reception have been busy learning lots of new sounds and practising those that we already know. Please continue to practise reading at home to support your child's progress.

As the colder weather draws in please ensure all hats and gloves sent into school are named.

A polite reminder to book your child's lunch each day please.

The Reception Winter performance will be *The Big Little Nativity* as their Winter performance this year, telling the traditional nativity story. We look forward to putting on this show for all our grown-ups.

The Reception Team

PLEASE  
BOOK  
IN ADVANCE



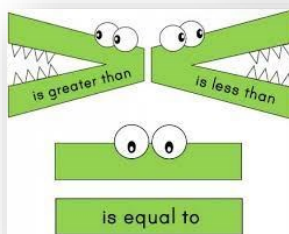
## Year 1

Our second week of term has been filled with so much learning! The children have enjoyed their History topic learning about the Gunpowder Plot. This week we discussed why we celebrate Bonfire Night and will become news reporters next week to write about it. In maths, we have been learning how to use the more than and less than symbol to compare different numbers.

Also, in PE we have kickstarted our new PE unit of ball skills. We explored a variety of ways in which we can control a ball such as dribbling, bouncing and rolling. It would be great if you could practise this at home too!

**Winter Production News!** Join Year 1 this December for our Winter Production: **Snowman at Sunset**. The first thing every child wants to do when it snows is build a snowman! Everyone loves making snowmen, but what happens when there isn't enough snow? Snowman at Sunset is a wonderful celebration of teamwork through dance, acting and cheerful, catchy songs. We hope you will enjoy watching it as much as we are putting it together!

Year 1 Team



**KS1 curriculum evening** - A really big thank you to all the parents who were able to attend on 7th November. We hope that you found it helpful and gave a little more insight into how we teach our core maths and English curriculum. If you were unable to attend all of the slides and resources can be found on our website on your Year group pages: [Year 1](#) and [Year 2](#).

## Year 2

This week, we have continued with our Rainforest topic. We learnt about the equator, the tropics and where most rainforest are in the world. We had a visitor from Greenpeace who showed us

some fascinating videos of orangutangs and discussed deforestation with us. In English, we started looking at persuasion. We used persuasive sentence starters and bossy verbs to persuade our teachers

to give us 5 minutes of extra breaktime! In maths we have been finding the difference using subtraction. We showed our working out and answers using comparative models. Our new PE unit is fitness, the children enjoyed playing games with their friends and discussing the changes in their body after running.

**Year 2 performance** will be '**Children of the World**' this year. It is a charming Christmas musical about different festive customs around the world. Every year Gabriel and the angels celebrate the birth of Jesus by bringing children from around the world to the manger, to tell of their Christmas customs and to offer gifts to the baby Jesus. We look forward to putting on the show for all our grown ups.

Thank you, Year 2 team





### Year 3

Children in Y3 have made a brilliant start to their production rehearsals this week and staff have been impressed by how much practice children have put into memorising the song lyrics, their lines and using the stage directions. Pupils have developed their non-chronological reports writing skills and have written introduction and appearance paragraphs for an imaginary creature, the Narduck. In maths, children have worked hard in their groups and have used manipulatives to show their understanding of multiplication and division. Well done, Year 3!



Narduck. In maths, children have worked hard in their groups and have used manipulatives to show their understanding of multiplication and division. Well done, Year 3!

### Reminders

Monday 13th November Odd Socks Day - Children should wear odd socks with their school uniform.

Friday 17th November Children in Need - Please wear something spotty or bright and donate online [here](#).

Thursday 23rd November Bring production COSTUMES into school in a named bag.

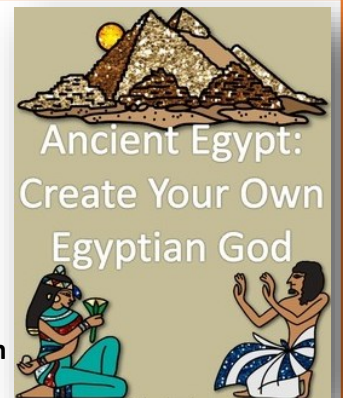
The Year 3 Teaching Team

### Year 4

Year 4 have had a very creative week. We have been writing about what we would do if we met a Pharaoh. We have also been 'designing' our own Egyptian Gods and writing about them.

In Maths, we have been learning about measuring, We have been measuring things around the classroom and thinking about which measurements to use.

In Science, we have been learning about teeth and eating. We know the main functions of our teeth now!



Y4 Teaching Team

**Year 5** This week in science, year 5 worked in teams using various pieces of equipment to try and clean a beaker of extremely dirty water! We found that using a sieve was effective in separating large pieces of debris followed by filter paper and a funnel to clean the water further.



No children (drank the water) or were harmed in the process!

In DT, we tried out our measuring and sawing skills ahead of our woodwork project to design and make a throne for a Greek god or goddess.

Year 5 Team

### Year 6

Year 6 have had an exciting week with a real focus on remembrance day. Not only have children been writing some amazing, emotive poems but they have also been performing these poems, using tips from the fantastic poet Michael Rosen.

For our DT topic we created mood boards using google classroom to help plan for building thrones for a Greek god of our choice. We then used the bench hooks, saws and glue guns to practice the skills we will need for building the real thing at the end of this term.

In science, we can explain how we see and why some people need glasses. In history, we spied on Greek hoplite soldiers and learnt why they were such a formidable army.



Year 6 Team