

Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 15 Friday 5th January 2024



2023/24 Academic year

Term 3

Tues 2 Jan- Fri 9th Feb '24

INSET DAY Tues 2 Jan

First day of term Weds 3 Jan

Year 2 Class Assemblies

2R 26 Jan, 2W 2 Feb, 2SC 8 Feb

Click [here](#) for full details of all
Infant School Class Assemblies

Term 4

Mon 19 Feb - Thurs 28 March

Parents Evenings

Thurs 22 & Tues 27 Feb

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.

**2024/25 Academic year dates
will be added here and to the
school website calendar once
they have been finalised.**



Dear parents and carers,

Happy new year 2024! I hope you were able to enjoy the holiday and have some special times together as a family.

A big thank you on behalf of all the staff for your very thoughtful cards, warm wishes and gifts. These were all very much appreciated and were very gratefully received.

Bereavement - Sadly, several of our families suffered bereavements over the holidays and the sadness of losing a loved one over the Christmas period is always harder to cope with. Please always let us know if there has been a significant family event such as this so we can support your child in school. Winston's wish also have really helpful advice for parents and carers supporting grieving children | [Winston's Wish](#)

Parking - Please park on the road rather than partly on the pavements where possible. Parents have been reported as mounting the kerb to park when children are on the pavement directly in front of cars.

Elmlea Schools' Trust - Many of you will know that Elmlea Schools' Trust is a very small multi-academy trust, which consists of Elmlea Infant School and Elmlea Junior School. In response to government direction for all schools to be part of larger trusts, we have been on a journey in thinking about the best options for our future direction. There have been many discussions by trustees and we have considered joining lots of different local multi-academy trusts but not found the right fit as yet.

However, we wanted to let you know that last term we began discussions with Bristol Free School (BFS) who are part of the Russell Education Trust (RET), which is a larger multi-academy trust, to consider how we might work more closely together. This feels like a natural fit for our Trust as BFS is the school of choice for most of our families for secondary education and is also within our local community.

Our discussions are about the possibility of us joining RET. Were we to join RET, from a parent and child perspective, there would be little change, for example we would still keep our own curriculum and identity, the change would mainly be at a governance level.

We are in the discussion phase at the moment and will keep you updated. If you have any questions at this stage please direct these to:

future@elmleaschoolstrust.com

Lorraine Wright,
Executive Headteacher

Job Opportunity - Safeguarding Administrator and DDSL

Bristol Free School are currently recruiting for Safeguarding Officer. Full-time Term time only plus one week, but part-time & flexible working all considered which could work around the school day if needs be.

More information can be found [here](#)



A message from the PTA - Upcoming events

JUNIOR DISCOS - 26th Jan Yr 3 - 3:30pm, Yr 4 - 4:30pm, Yr 5 - 5:30pm, Yr 6 - 6:30pm

INFANTS DISCOS - 2nd Feb Reception - 3:30pm, Yr 1 - 4:30pm, Yr 2 - 5:30pm

Tickets £4.

We need volunteers for these events to run - sign up genius to follow via class reps.

Please help if you can!

Next PTA meeting - January 30th. Venue - tbc.



Teacher-led after school clubs in term 3

All teacher-led school clubs, both before and after school, start back next week. Please remember children are expected to attend every week, so 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.

Music News - Junior Winter Sing photos

I've been sent some lovely photos of the KS2 Winter Sing back in November, please click [here](#) to have a look at them.

Miss Sadler, Co-ordinator of Music



Henleaze Tennis Club Christmas Half Term holiday camps - whole day available



Henleaze Lawn Tennis Club's Junior Tennis Club and holiday camps cater for children from 4-13 years of age and are designed to be fun for all levels of juniors. They are run by our highly experienced and fully qualified coaching team providing the children with a fun, social and active environment.

Morning (8.30am-12pm) and full day camps 8.30am-3pm available, book the whole week or individual days. Sign up and book [here](#).

Top Tips for Managing Screen Time

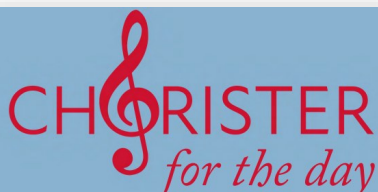
99% of current children will own a smartphone before they reach 18 📱👤 With phones and other devices offering an increasing number of ways to pass the time, it can prove difficult for young people to set them aside. As a gateway to messaging services, games, television, music and more, digital devices can become borderline indispensable items in a young person's life.

Studies have shown, however, that managing a child's screen time can have positive impacts on their cognitive development. This week, our [guide](#) provides you with some simple but effective tips to help you bring your family's screen time down to a healthier level, while suggesting alternative activities that are far less reliant on technology.



Community News

Year 4 'Be a Chorister for the Day...' Saturday 24 February at Bristol Cathedral



Does your Year 4 child - enjoy singing? - show potential? We invite budding musicians in Year 4 and their families to join us for a day of singing fun, activities, and Choral Evensong. - meet the music staff - meet the choristers - try on robes - enjoy a singing workshop - meet chorister parents over coffee - learn about Evensong and chorister life ...become a Chorister for Life - Choristers receive an exceptional musical education - they learn to work in teams - sing with adults as equals - sing on national TV and radio and for dignitaries

- tour foreign countries - receive funding for instrumental lessons - receive free singing lessons - and are educated at Bristol Cathedral Choir School.

If this sounds like something your Year 4 child would be interested in taking part in then please click [here](#) for more information and to apply.



Elmlea
Schools' Trust

Year Group News

Reception

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a restful break. The children have enjoyed playing in our new role-play areas and learning about our new topic 'People Who Help Us'.

Please get in contact with Miss Neal if you are able to come in this term and talk to the children about your job as a person that helps us: abie.neal@elmleaschoolstrust.com

The Reception Team



Year 1

Well done, Year One. You have settled back into school really well and it's been a great start to the New Year. This week we introduced our new topic and began learning about the animals in the ocean, starting with the jellyfish!

We also started our new Jigsaw theme, Dreams and Goals. What new skill do you want to learn this year?



Year 1 Team

Year 2

Year 2 have had a super week back in school launching our topic 'Panic on Pudding Lane' all about the Great Fire of London. On our launch day we did some themed team games, explored some artefacts which led to lots of questions and we also got our hands (and some uniforms - sorry) a little messy when we mixed our dough and became a baker as a clue for our topic. In the afternoon we created our own Tudor houses and would like to let you know that we might be using these to recreate the great fire by setting them alight. If you have any concerns about this, please let your teacher know.



Alongside this, we have begun exploring multiplication in maths this term and will be continuing this for the next few weeks.

Thank you, Year 2 team

Year 3 On Wednesday, Year 3 had a brilliant start to the year in our new topic launch day for Splash!. Children looked authentic in their pirate costumes and staff were impressed with all outfits and accessories. We started the day by sharing the events of the holidays, learning some sea shanties. sharing 'Splash!' linked items which the children had brought into school and designing topic front covers and front pages. In maths, pupils consolidated and extended their knowledge and understanding about the months of the year and days of the week. In English, children have started a new unit of work inspired by the book 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' by Joe Todd-Stanton.



In Science, we started our new unit of learning about forces and motion. Pupils enjoyed a Splash science session when pupils learned even more about water science.

Well done, Year 3!

The Year 3 Teaching Team



Year 4 Year 4 We have had a brilliant launch to our new topic 'Splash' this week. We have started our new unit of work inspired by the book 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Micheal Morpurgo.

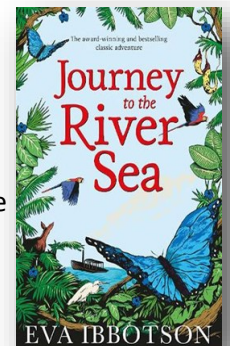
We have looked carefully at the world map and have identified the continents and oceans. In Maths, the children have completed some excellent work on statistics and have successfully interpreted pictograms, bar charts and line graphs.

Coming into school in pirate outfits was a fun and exciting start to the week too! We also learnt and sung some sea shanties, plus shared 'Splash' themed items that they brought from home. Lots of these were then added to our new 'Splash' themed topic boards.

Y4 Teaching

Year 5

Year 5 have had a brilliant start to the term! We started the week with the launch of our new topic, 'On the Latin Side'. We explored Nazca lines and created our own art pieces in the sand. We created maps of South America for our displays and started to learn about some of its geographical features. We also had fun learning some South American inspired dance moves! We are starting to explore our new text, Journey to River Sea, and created some artwork inspired by the front cover of the book. In maths, we are working on the four operations, and we have been recapping some of our mental maths strategies. We also started our new art topic, exploring the importance of art in different religions.



Year 5 Team

Target



What it means: the target of what you want your life to be about.

Year 6 What a fantastic start to 2024 year 6!

On Wednesday, we thoroughly enjoyed our launch into our new top 'On the Latin Side' where we began to learn all about South America and its geographical location. Not only did we build our own collaborative jigsaw of this wonderful continent to put on display in our classroom, but we even got to take part in a Cha Cha dance class. We then learnt about Nazca lines in the southern desert of Peru and how they were created by tribes thousands of years ago. It was brilliant fun when we got to create some of our own in trays of sand.



A tree

In English, we started to read Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp by Phillip Pullman, which is going to inspire this term's creative writing. Well done year 6-what a brilliant way to kick off the new year!

Year 6 Team