

Elmlea Schools' Trust Newsletter Issue 19 Friday 2nd February 2024



Elmlea
Schools' Trust

2023/24 Academic year

Term 3

Tues 2 Jan- Fri 9th Feb '24

Year 2 Class Assemblies

25C Friday 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

Travelling Book Fair

Mon 2-Thurs 7 March 3:30-4pm

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

INSET dates for 2024/25

Mon 2 & Tues 3 Sept '24 / Fri

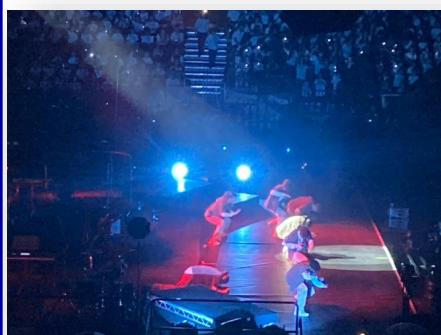
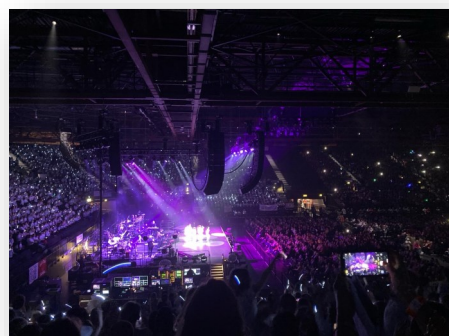
25 Oct '24 / Mon 6 Jan '25 / Fri

7 March '25 / Mon 16 June '25

See [website](#) for more info.

Dear parents and carers,

We can report back on the **Yr4 Young Voices** trip to Birmingham last week which was a fantastic and unforgettable experience for the children. They joined a choir of 5500 children to sing together the songs they have been learning for weeks accompanied by a live band, professional singers, street dancers as well as star turns from Natalie Williams and MC Grammar. With a practice in the afternoon Yr4 were ready for a performance in



the evening to a packed audience including 74 Elmlea parents who had travelled up for the evening. 90 very excited children travelled home and arrived back at near to midnight, (more info on next page).

A huge, huge thank you to the staff team who accompanied the children and to our parent volunteers who helped us make it happen.

Yr2 Football fixture – it was great to see our Yr2 children represent Elmlea at the Shine sporting event and an opportunity to compete against other schools - We fielded a mixed team who played so well and showed a great team spirit. Thank you to Miss McKenzie for organising the trip as our Infant PE lead and to the adults who took the children.

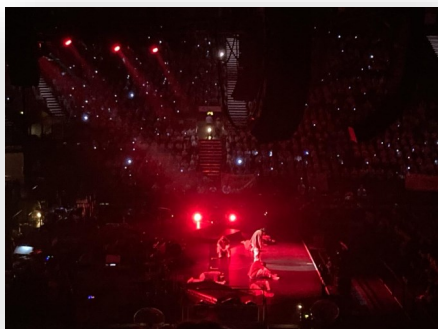
Class WhatsApps – we know that for parents the class WhatsApp can be really helpful however several parents are concerned about the weight of information shared which can create an overload for those trying to keep up. Our newsletter although very packed has all the information you will need in it – key dates, events coming up etc. A parent voice is “ Please just read the newsletter, it’s all in there, all you need to know”. If this isn’t the case in your experience, please let me know so we can make sure it is, email info@elmleaschoolstrust.com ref newsletter.

Lorraine Wright,
Executive Headteacher



Music News

A massive well done to all of year 4 who travelled to Birmingham to perform with **Young Voices** at the Resorts World Arena. They were all amazing: we are so proud of their resilience, excellent behaviour and energy! I'm sure all of those parents who travelled with us and separately to be in the audience would agree it was a truly unforgettable experience. Thank you to all who helped to make this trip a success. If you are interested in watching some of the concert you can watch the first 5 minutes for free [here](#) Search for the show at Resorts World Arena, Birmingham, Friday 26th January.



Musical dates for your diaries: we are looking forward to our **Spring Choir Festival** on the evening of Wednesday 20th March. Infant choir, junior choir and boys choir will be performing together on this date. Year 3 **ukulele performances** will be in the afternoon of Wednesday 20th March.

Miss Sadler, Co-ordinator of Music

Football's Coming Home to Elmlea!

Next week the school will be hosting some competitive football fixtures and would welcome your support.

On Monday our year 5/6 girls compete in the Girl's Cup and on Thursday our year 5/6 boys compete in the next round of The Coronation Cup.

Both matches start straight after school on the field. Hope to see you there.



After School Clubs

Elmlea Junior School Teacher-led after school clubs in Term 4

A reminder for parents to log on to Arbor and confirm their child's place **by 9.00am on Monday 5th February** so we can finalise the registers. Many thanks.

Parents evening bookings now open

Bookings for Parent-Teacher Meetings will remain open on Arbor until 7pm on Friday 16th February. After this time, appointments may only be made or altered by contacting the School Office.

The Parent-Teacher Meetings will be taking place in person at school on Thursday 22nd & Tuesday 27th February from 3.30-6:40pm (*Thursday 22nd & Monday 26th February for class 3CW only*).

If you have any problems using Arbor or with your booking, please email the school office: info@elmleaschoolstrust.com



What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Persuasive Design Online

Apps and sites are all competing for our attention 📱👁️ Over the years, numerous strategies have been developed which are intended to influence users' behaviour – making us more likely to remain on a site, game or platform for longer periods of time. These techniques are known as 'persuasive design' and can have a particularly profound effect on children and young people 🤖

Despite these tactics' evident effectiveness, there are still plenty of ways to help prevent yourself (and your child) from being psychologically swayed. This week's [guide](#) breaks down the potential risks posed by persuasive design online – and offers some top tips for recognising and reducing its impact on young people's decision making.



New 4-6 year old Taekwon-Do Classes

Exciting News! Westbury-on-Trym Taekwon-Do is hoping to start Little Lion Classes again on a Monday and Thursday, at Elmlea Junior School.

New students are offered two free classes so that they, and their parent/guardian, can see if it's an activity they'd like to continue with.

Before the classes (potentially) start officially, the FREE classes have been organised for the beginning of Term 4. **Places are limited, so please book by Sunday 11th Feb!**

MONDAY: 19th & 26th February from 4.30-5pm. *This class will be held in the Dance Studio.*

OR

THURSDAY: 22nd & 29th February from 4.30-5pm. *This class will be held in the Main Hall.*

If you'd like more information, or to book the free classes, please don't hesitate to contact Miss Fran White
email: w-o-t.tkd@hotmail.co.uk phone: 07787956050 . More information can be found [here](#).



Fine Art & Craft Club at Elmlea Junior School in Term 4

Fine Art Club on Tuesdays starting Tues 20th Feb in The Lodge - cost £48 for 6 weeks

Craft Club on Wednesdays starting Weds 21st Feb in Class 3B - cost £48 for 6 weeks.

Both clubs run from 3:15-4:15pm.

To guarantee your place, please contact Rasa by email

rasa.ashworth@live.co.uk or by phone on 07842 366065 Or click [here](#).



Inclusion Information and Support

Free SEND Events

Bristol Parent Carers is an organisation run by parents who understand the challenges of raising a child with special educational needs or a disability because they've been there too and they have children just like yours. They are a charity run by parents, for parents.

Join them at one of their [free events](#) in February and find the support your family needs. www.bit.ly/BPCGetHelp



Community News

Events for Children and Families at St George's Bristol!

- Wednesday 14 February 10:15-11:45am Wild Words presents: [The Song of the Forest](#) (inspired by Grimm Tales)
- Sunday 25 February MiniBeats 10:30am (Under 5's) 12:30pm (4-8 yrs) [Brilliant Brass!](#)
- FREE tickets to a selection of concerts across our programme for young people and students (over 8 yrs) [Cavatina | St George's Bristol \(stgeorgesbristol.co.uk\)](#)

More information can be found [here](#).



February Half-Term Guide - Bristol Family Blog

Find out what's on in Bristol this February Half Term 10-18th February.

Outdoor Days Out & Activities | Animal Parks & Experiences | Smaller Animal Experiences | Theatre | Museums, Caves & Indoor Activities | Other Indoor Activities | Creative/Arts.

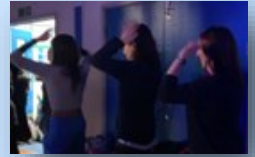
You can find it all [here](#)



PTA News

PTA meeting: Thank you to all who came along to the PTA meeting on Tuesday, we'll update you on key items and upcoming events in next week's newsletter.

Discos: Great moves were pulled on the dance floor at last weeks' disco (and not just by the kids) - we hope those attending today have a great time! Thank you to Jen and team for organising.



Volunteers for Summer Fair committee: We're looking for a few more volunteers to arrange the Summer Fair. Thank you to those who have signed up so far. Please let us know if you can help.

Winter Raffle: Support the PTA and buy tickets to our winter raffle. We have an amazing list of prizes to be won! Many of which have been donated by Elmlea parents and local businesses. Please visit <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/eisa/> to view the list of prizes and buy your tickets.



New Uniform Shed We are currently looking for a 12x10 shiplap shed to house uniform and costumes for plays/dress up days - making it more accessible for all our families, and reducing fabric waste to help the environment.

Does anyone have any connections to a company? Could anyone secure funding for it through a company? We would love to hear from you! Please get in touch using the email below.

elmlea.school.pta@gmail.com

Below are some photos of the new infants playground additions your money bought. Thankyou from the kids - they love using them!



We have secured £200 funding from Wickes, for the forest school redevelopment being undertaken by Steve Forbes. This will go a long way to helping this great project.

Don't forget to use [Easyfundraising](#)

Over 7,000 brands donate, so you can raise a FREE donation for Elmlea Schools' Trust Association every time you grab a bargain! Thank you to all you new supporters out there!



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



Year Group News

Reception

This week the children enjoyed their final apparatus session this term. We have been learning to read new digraphs and longer words. Please remember to read a little each day at home and record it in your reading record book to support your child's progress.

The EYFS gate is shut in the morning to allow us to set up the playground. Please encourage your children to head straight to their classroom door when it opens.

Thank you to Robbie's Mum Jo and Edie's Mum Helen who came in this week to talk about their jobs helping people! The children really enjoyed listening and learning with you both - thank you!



The Reception Team

Year 1

A very happy and positive week in Year 1 this week to celebrate mental health week. We have had some lovely class discussions surrounding keeping our brains calm and healthy. We have thought about the best ways to keep ourselves calm as well as take some time to be mindful. On top of this, we have completed another big write in English as we became free divers in the ocean, created our very own mini aquariums and have investigated odd and even numbers in maths.



Year 1 Team

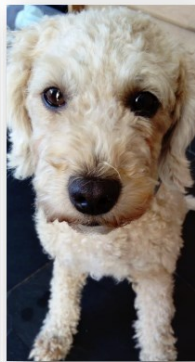
Year 2

Year 2 have been learning about suffixes and prefixes in English, ask your child how many words they can make from the root word 'kind'! In maths, the children have been looking at how to use their known times tables to work out problems as the factors are commutative. We have also been thinking about how many ways we can describe a representation. As it has been Mental Health week, we have taken time to discuss ways in which we can help our minds to feel healthy. During science, we investigated what the best material for curtains was and used the words opaque and transparent. We also designed a flat bread which we are looking forward to baking next week!



Thank you, Year 2 team

Year 3 Pupils in Year 3 have had a mindful week and have enjoyed the opportunity to explore this week's Children's Mental Health Week theme of 'My Voice Matters'. Cora, the therapy dog, was welcomed into



the class on Monday. After commencing the new Splash-linked English unit of work on poetry, children have thoroughly immersed themselves in some art therapy which significantly improved their enjoyment of the unit launch. In maths, pupils have revisited, consolidated and extended their knowledge and understanding about place value in order to aid their addition computations. Reading comprehension saw a continued 'Sustainability' link and children demonstrated their new 'active reading' skills: underlining, circling, annotating, box-up and question. In PE, developing tag rugby skills and netball were on show, depending on the class rotation of sports. In art, pupils planned their final seascape artwork which will incorporate texture. Well done, Year 3!



Year 3 Teaching Team

Year 4 This week year 4 have celebrated children's mental health week and our theme of 'my voice matters' by: Having a circle time and discussing what makes us feel anxious or worried and how we can cope with our feelings and move forward. We talked about the 'circle of control' and how to change the things we can and to accept the things we cannot. Talking about the Stress bucket and about what things can cause us to feel stress and what we can do to let go of it.



The Five ways to well-being:

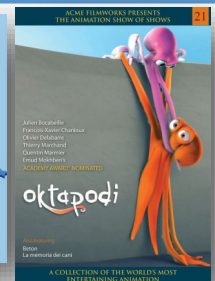
- 1) Taking Notice,
- 2) Being Active
- 3) Connecting with others
- 4) Learning new things.
- 5) Giving to others

Well done Year 4!

Y4 Teaching Team

Year 5

This week in Year 5, we have started a new English writing unit on film reviews. We watched a hilarious animated short film called Oktapodi, explored some key features of review writing before having a go ourselves at being film critiques. In geography, we have been learning about natural resources in South America and have been introduced to the concepts of food miles and carbon footprints when we import products like bananas and coffee from warmer climates. For Children's Mental Health Week, we have taken time to reflect on what is important to us and have practised 'taking notice' of what's around us by spending some time in The Copse, in silence, listening to and tuning in to what's around us.



Year 5 Team

Year 6 Year 6 have had a very thoughtful and reflective time to commemorate Children's Mental Health Week.

We enjoyed taking the time to write something kind about one of our peers- it made us feel really good about ourselves.

We also discussed how we can manage our worries using the 'circle of control'. This helped us to realise that there are quite a few worries that we have no control over, and that it's best to focus on the things that we can manage more easily.

We also identified that our mental health is better when we are helping others, so we began to plan for a charity or sponsored event that we will complete over half term to raise money for charity.



A really compassionate week year 6. Well done!

Year 6 Team