



ELMWOOD INFANT SCHOOL

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

Newsletter – 3rd December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Christmas festivities have started! We have three weeks until the end of term and they are jam packed with lots of events and activities, starting today with a visit from a special person and his helpful elf! A photo of your child's class whilst visiting Santa can be purchased for £1 from the class teacher. Watch out for more details in the next few days.

Star Gazing

Thank you to everyone who brought in a star for our hall today. They look amazing!

Cake Sale

We would like to thank you for your generosity in donating cakes for our cake sale last week. There were so many and we had lots left over! The cakes (that were packaged) have been put into our food bank ready to distribute to Elmwood families this Christmas. If you are a family in need of a bit of help, and would appreciate a bag of bits in the run up to Christmas, please mention this to a member of staff and we will get one sorted for you.

A big thank you to Miss Thomas for organising this event. The funds raised will be going to help the children of Syria.

Attendance Update

We are very proud of the improvements that have been made to attendance this year.

Thank you for supporting your child in attending school as much as they possibly can!

At the moment, our attendance is 96%. The class with the best attendance since the start of the school year is **TURTLES** with almost 99%!

Close behind with almost 98% are Sharks, Seahorses and Dolphins and then we have a number of classes across the school with between 96 and 97% attendance.

Who will be the best attenders for this term? Will it be Turtles or might another class take the lead?

Last week there were lots of cases of sickness. The advice we have been given is that if your child has a vomiting bug, they should remain off school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness.

Bike Market

Despite the rain, our third Bike Market went well and quite a lot of bikes were sold at the end of the day. Thank you very much for supporting this event and do let me know if you would like us to host another one in the future. Thank you Miss Turner for organising this event.

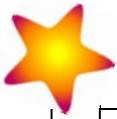
Christmas Jumper Day.....Friday 14th December.

Time to dig out that festive jumper and wear it to school for the day.

Christmas Lunch..... This takes place on Friday 14th December. Like usual, there will be a halal option for the children as well as non-halal and vegetarian choices.



Thank you to all of the parents and carers who returned the parental questionnaire. We had a fantastic response with over 120 responses. Here is a summary of the results:



		Agree or Strongly Agree
1	My child is happy at this school	100%
2	My child feels safe at this school	99%
3	My child makes good progress at this school	100%
4	My child is well looked after at this school	99%
5	My child is taught well at this school	100%
6	The school encourages my child to be healthy	98%
7	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	98%
8	This school ensures the pupils are well behaved	100%
9	This school deals effectively with bullying	98%
10	This school is well led and managed	100%
11	This school responds well to any concern I raise	98%
12	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	98%
13	The school promotes equality and celebrates diversity	97%
14	My child can tell me about their rights and responsibilities.	93%
15	My child can tell me about the challenges they get in their learning	94%
16	I would recommend this school to another parent	100%

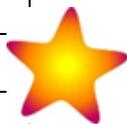


Strengths: Care and concern, united, Rights Respecting, super skills, diversity, learning opportunities for children, safe, seesaw, great communication, language development, key words, well organised, staff, progress in reading and spelling, diversity, safeguarding, behaviour, leadership, communication, atmosphere, collecting for charity, approachability.



Areas where you think we could improve: There were very few comments made about the areas we could improve but we have considered them all very carefully. Some we can definitely think about and these include the introduction of literacy games to borrow, the timings for breakfast/after school club and celebrating other festivals with mufti days etc.

We do not have the capacity, finance or space to change some of the other points raised and these include separate changing rooms, the surface of the playground and changing the Christmas holidays to four weeks. If you would like the opportunity to discuss a suggestion you made, especially if it is not highlighted here, please make an appointment to see Miss Payne or myself.



Nursery and Reception Christmas Performances



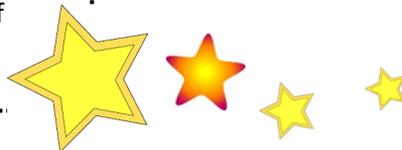
Come and join us for the Early Years Christmas performances. These take place on the following dates/time:



- Tuesday 11th Dec Reception, 9.15am (hall)
- Wednesday 12th Dec Reception, 9.15am (hall)
- Wednesday 18th Dec Nursery, 9.15am (in the Nursery)
- Nursery, 2.15pm (in the Nursery)

Become a Parent Governor

Are you considering the role of parent governor at our school? This is a rare, exciting opportunity to join our governing board. Please return your nomination form by Thursday. If you would find it helpful to discuss the role before returning your form, please contact Miss Harris or our chair of governors, Sherifa Turawa.



Return this slip and your child will be entered into a prize draw. No need to comment, just sign and return!

December 2018 Newsletter Comments:



Signed..... (parent/carer of.....class.....)