



Article 17 - Children have the right to information & to speak out/be heard.

# ELMWOOD INFANT SCHOOL

## Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

Newsletter – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are already half way through the half term and more than half way through the second lockdown! Attendance has remained high since half term especially considering the context we are in, which is really positive. We've had a number of classes over the last term achieve 100% for their weekly attendance – fantastic! It shows that our Covid Action Plan is helping and that collectively our actions are keeping the virus at bay. If we do find ourselves having to react to another confirmed case or year group closure, I have no doubt that, in partnership with you, we will manage the situation as smoothly as we did before.

We hope you found the recent parents meeting (via phone call) useful and that it gave you some helpful insight into your child's learning and progress? Whilst we would have preferred to see you face to face, staff felt that these phone calls went well and enjoyed talking to you and sharing your child's achievements.

### Face Coverings & Social Distancing

Please remember to wear a face covering when you are on the playground at the start and end of the day.

We've also been asked by the Local Authority to remind everyone about wearing face coverings on public transport. If you have a secondary school aged child, please remind them of the requirement to wear a face covering when travelling by public transport to and from school.

### Changes to the start and end of the school day

Last week you should have received a letter via email to inform you that our staggered times are changing slightly.

**From Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November**, children should be dropped off between 8.40am and 9am and collected between 2.50pm and 3.10pm.

Nursery AM children should be dropped off between 8.40am and 9am and collected between 11.10 and 11.30pm.

Nursery PM children should be dropped off between 12.20pm and 12.40pm and collected between 2.50pm and 3.10pm.

### Junior applications and applications for Reception

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> Sep 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017, you need to apply for a place in Reception.

If your child is in Year 2, you need to apply for a place in the Junior school.

The deadline for applying is January 15<sup>th</sup> 2021. Need help? Please speak to Miss Payne or Miss Harris.

**Looking for a Nursery place at Elmwood?** Please contact the school office for more information.

## Christmas Party Lunch

Our Christmas lunch takes place on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Like last year, the food will be party food as the children really enjoyed this and it will be much easier to manage within these Covid conscious times. Please encourage your child to take part and have a school meal on this day. We'll make it as special as we can.

## New Parent Governor

Earlier in the term I wrote to let you know that we had a parent governor vacancy on our governing board. You will be pleased to know that Suraj Paudel (father of two children in our school- Year 2 and Reception) has now been appointed to this position.

We have two other parent governors on our board:

Sandra Wahla (parent to a child in Year 2)

Muhammad Ali (parent to a child in Year 1)

## Parent Hub

Just a reminder about our very useful parent hub, which can be accessed via the Safeguarding link on our website. The hub has lots of information on how to keep your child safe from harm.

The hub can be accessed with the following password:

**elmwoodi**

## Parent Questionnaire

The deadline for completing this is tomorrow so if you haven't yet had a chance to complete it, please use the link that was sent to you via text. Your views are hugely valued and your feedback and comments will help us to further improve our school. So far we have had 120 parents submit a response, which is fantastic and almost as high as the 135 we received last year.

## Flu Vaccination

Nasal flu vaccinations for children at Elmwood Infant School are taking place on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December. If you haven't yet returned your consent form, please do this in the next few days.

## Christmas Festivities

Whilst we are not able to deliver the Reception Christmas Performance this year, we will be:

- Having a Christmas Jumper Day on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December.
- Asking Santa and his Elf to visit via Zoom.
- Watching a live pantomime from the classrooms.
- Making decorations in school for our Christmas trees and classrooms.
- Enjoying a Christmas party lunch as detailed above.

## Self-Isolation and learning from home.

In order to keep our school as Covid-safe as possible, any child or member of staff displaying one or more of the Covid symptoms will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days or until a negative test result has been received. In some cases, parents have been advised by their GP, 111 or other source that there is no need for this to happen but the government guidance to schools is very clear and we will continue to follow this guidance to ensure we are consistent and that the risk of spreading the virus is kept to a minimum at our school. We know that this can be frustrating but thank you for your understanding and support.