

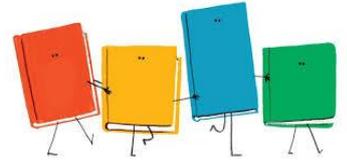


Article 17 - Children have the right to information & to speak out/be heard.

ELMWOOD INFANT SCHOOL

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

Newsletter – 26th February 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have settled back into the rhythm of remote-learning, following the half term break and that you have been enjoying the slightly warmer weather and lighter days? Our thoughts are with you all as you manage another week of home-learning although there is definitely light at the end of the tunnel as we now know that all children are able to return to school from Monday 8th March.

Our Covid Action Plan is in the process of being updated in readiness for the wider return of children to the school building. You will be able to view this updated document on our website from next week. We will also send you a few reminders about the systems we have in place to keep everyone covid-safe, especially when dropping off and collecting children from school. You may be reassured to know that every member of staff now takes a lateral flow test on two days across the school week. This is a home test that gives a result within half an hour and has really helped us over the past few weeks to manage the virus and keep everyone feeling safe.

Whilst it is positive to hear that cases of Covid-19 seem to be going down in our locality, we know that many families have been adversely affected by the pandemic and send our thoughts and wishes to all of you. It has been an incredibly tricky time for so many people and we are looking forward to being able to see you again very soon.

Zoom Meeting for All Parents

We have organised a parents meeting to share with you the arrangements we have in place for the return of all children to the school building. At this meeting we can also answer any questions you may have.

This meeting will take place on Wednesday 3rd March at 9.30am. To keep this meeting as secure as possible, the link for it has been shared through SeeSaw and EvidenceMe.

Postponed - Parents Evening

We had planned to hold the spring term parents' evenings in the next few weeks, but have decided to postpone these until the summer term. This gives the children a chance to settle back into school and allows the teaching staff to assess the children's learning, focus on any gaps and feedback to you once the children have been back in school for a while.

Access to a Device and Mobile Data

Sadly, infant schools across the UK have not been allocated any devices at all from the government. At Elmwood, we have had to use the laptops we would usually use within the classrooms and now want to make sure these are ready for use in school again as soon as possible. If you have been allocated one of the school devices for use during this time, please can you return it to school by Thursday 4th March. This will allow us to clean the devices and clear them of data, before being used again in the classroom.

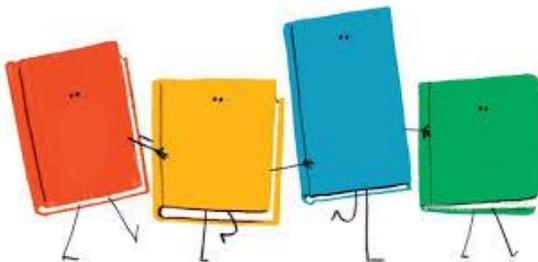
Elmwood Infant School is looking for a new Headteacher

Having had the privilege of being the Headteacher of Elmwood Infant School since 2015, I wanted to let you know that I will be leaving at the end of the summer term to take up a new position as leader of a Multi-Academy Trust. I will be leaving with very mixed emotions as Elmwood is such a special school to be part of. The post is based in Croydon and so I am not going too far away and know that the staff will keep me posted on all of Elmwood's future achievements.

The governors have started the recruitment process for a new Headteacher and are working closely with the Local Authority on this. They will let you know as soon as they have any more information. Elmwood Infant School is an incredible school to work in and I have every confidence that the governors will be able to appoint someone special to continue on the journey with you, the children and staff.

With the warmest of wishes,

Zoe Harris



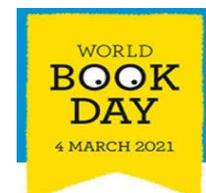
Next week is Book Week!

Hopefully, you will have seen the letter from Mrs Campbell telling you all about Book Week and our dressing up day on:

Friday 5th March.

Although we are not yet back in the school building, we wanted to go ahead and celebrate our Book Week with a dressing up day and hope that you'll join us from home (or school if you are in one of the bubbles) and wear an outfit to represent a book character.

Don't forget to use your World Book Day voucher too!



Food Bank Donations

We wouldn't have been able to provide families with the food bags they rely on without the donations from staff, parents/carers and the wider community. Thank you so much for everything you have done to support our food bank since it started - over three years ago! It has been especially important throughout the pandemic, helping over fifteen families every single week and we are determined to keep it going for as long as we can. Donations are much appreciated and can be dropped off to a member of staff in the playground or delivered to the school entrance.