



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

ELMWOOD INFANT SCHOOL

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

Newsletter – 25th March 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you and your child have settled back into the daily routines of school now that we have all been back in the building for a few weeks? From our perspective, the return of all the children to school has gone really well and it is lovely to have a school full of chatter again!

Our thoughts and hopes for the future are with you as we mark a whole year since the first lockdown started. We know how tough it has been for many of you and have lots of information on the website about how you can access help and support. If you need some guidance on how to access support, please speak to a member of staff at the start or end of the school day - there is always someone available to help.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to keep the virus at bay, by keeping your child at home for any symptoms of ill-health, however mild. This has helped build confidence amongst the staff, children and families and since the return of everyone to the building, we've had no need to send any groups of children or staff home to self-isolate. Staff continue to complete lateral flow tests twice each week and to take their temperature on entry to the building. With the warmer weather arriving, ventilation of rooms has become easier too.

Food Vouchers for the Easter Break

Just to let you know that we will be sending you a £30 food voucher next week, if eligible for this support. The funding for the vouchers is issued to the school in two different ways – one directly from the DfE (and these are the vouchers we have to print out for you), or via the local authority, which are the vouchers we send to your phone. This next voucher is one that will be sent directly to your phone and should be with you on Friday/over the weekend.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Just to let you know that our parent/teacher meetings will take place over the phone, as they did in the autumn term. These will take place across **Wednesday 28th April** and **Thursday 29th April**. You will be sent a letter at the start of the summer term with the date and time of your telephone appointment.

Celebrating Holi



This Friday we are celebrating the Hindu festival of Holi by dressing up in bright coloured clothes and having a special lunch menu. Please take a look on our website for more details of the menu on offer.



Road Safety For the past year parking has been much easier as we have staggered the start and end of the school day. Although there are lots of people who park considerately at the start and end of the school day, there are a few who are parking in a way that puts children at risk. This includes parking on the dropped kerb, on the double yellow lines, in front of the school gates and even on the driveways of residents! We have also spotted a number of children who are not strapped into a car seat or seat-belted, with some children sat on the lap of an adult as the car drives off. This is illegal, breaches a child's right to be safe and could cause fatal crush injuries if an accident were to happen. ALWAYS park with safety in mind and ALWAYS strap your child into a seat.

An update on our recruitment for a new Head Teacher

Behind the scenes, the governors have been working hard to create an advert for the position of Head Teacher at our school. The job is now being advertised nationally and governors hope to have recruited to this post before the summer half term. Some of our children have been involved in a video, helping to show anyone interested just how amazing our school is.

We will let you know as soon as we have any more information.



Nursery Closed for Local Elections

We have worked closely with the council to try and find an alternative location for the polling station required on the 6th May but have not been successful.

This means that our Nursery will be closed all day on Thursday 6th May for the elections and on Friday 7th May in the morning so that the Nursery can be deep cleaned. Apologies for an inconvenience that this may cause.

Offers for Reception and Junior School Places

If you have applied for a Reception or Junior school place for your child, you should receive an email on Friday 16th April to confirm whether or not they have been offered a place. It is important to accept or decline this offer by Friday 30th April at the very latest. Please let us know if you need any assistance with this.

Red Nose Day

Thank you for supporting Comic Relief last Friday by creating a silly hair style for your child and making a donation to this important charity. It was a great day, with some hilarious moments. Whilst I had lots of compliments about my yellow hair, it is not a look that I intend to keep!

AIMING FOR GOLD AGAIN!

On Tuesday, a group of staff, governors and children spent the morning talking to UNICEF assessors about the important work we do around the rights of the child. The assessors seemed to be impressed with our rights respecting approach and we hope to hear from them in a few weeks' time to confirm whether or not we have retained GOLD!

A couple of reminders:

- We break up for Easter on Wednesday 31st March
- The summer term starts on Monday 19th April