

## NEXT INSET DAY

Thursday 29th March 2018

### Number 10 – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018



**WINTERY WEATHER** – the school will keep parents and carers updated via text message should the predicted snowy weather arrive this week.

Unless the conditions are very poor the children will go out to play as normal, so please ensure they have appropriately warm clothing.



**TOP PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT** – the installation of the 4 new trees in giant pots on the top playground has had lots of positive comments.

The trees were carefully selected and are

- Prunus Accolade. (Flowering Cherry) Chosen for Spring blossom, wildlife-friendly, orange

leaf in Autumn.

- Acer griseum. (Paperbark Maple) Attractive peeling bark, great Autumn colour.
- Liquidambar styraciflua (Sweet Gum) Again, rich Autumn tints. Interesting bark.
- Ginkgo biloba (Maidenhair Tree) Distinctive golden lime foliage. Has been growing since the dinosaurs! Renowned for medicinal properties. Pollution resistant.

Our aim is to keep adding to the top playground each holiday. The next phase is to erect storage sheds to launch our new playtime approach in the Summer Term. A playground information leaflet is due to be published shortly

Thank-you once again for all the fund raising support which is enabling this project to happen.



**WORLD BOOK DAY MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>** – We will be holding an Assembly to celebrate **World Book Day** on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**. Children can dress up as their favourite book character. Other activities during

the week will include: **“Stop everything and read,”** – a chance for different classes to read together; **“Get Caught Reading”** – a celebration of people reading in unusual places; books reviews and book making workshops

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE** – as explained in previous emails, overall pupil attendance dropped slightly over the Autumn Term. Thank you for everyone's on-going support with our focus on school attendance; it is much appreciated.

Current attendance figures are as follows:

Year group	% attendance (Sept to Feb 5 <sup>th</sup> )	% attendance (Sept to Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> )
Reception	83.6% (due to staggered starts)	85.3% (due to staggered starts)
Year 1	94.8%	94.9%
Year 2	95.8%	95.9%
Year 3	94.7%	95.1%
Year 4	96.0%	96.0%
Year 5	95.1%	96.0%
Year 6	95.3%	95.2%

Individual attendance reports will be printed for your child and given out at parents evening.

National average attendance = 96%

**STAFFING UPDATE** – Ms Lucy Roberts (Inclusion Leader) is about to start a phased return to work after a prolonged absence due to a serious back condition. During this phased return Ms Anna Burfield has kindly agreed to continue to cover as SENCo to ensure continuity of provision for children and families. Please continue to direct any SEND questions or communication to Ms Burfield. Thank-you for your patience and understanding during this time.

**NON SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY**- Many thanks for all of your donations last half term. We raised £257.09 for School Fund. The next non-school uniform day will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

**PARENTS EVENING** – we are looking forward to meeting parents and carers at the Parent's Evenings on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. Please contact the school office if you still need to book an appointment or use the online booking information.

Parent's Evenings will be held in the School Hall for the first time, not the Restaurant – enter via the school car park.

Parents and carers can also look at their child's work in, or just outside, their classroom.

**SCHOOL SPORT** – our cricketers narrowly lost to Carlton Hill then played brilliantly to beat Queen's Park, making fantastic progress throughout the competition and finishing as joint winners. We have now progressed to the city finals. Well done to: Harold (Cedar); Manni (Cypress); Toby (Elder); Dylan, Milo, Leo, Sacha (Oak).

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Our hockey players did really well in a recent tournament featuring 8 teams, with one of our teams finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place and the other as runners-up. Some of the children will now participate in the city finals. Well done to: Patti-Rose, Charlie, Toby, Harrison, George, Noah H (Elder); Milo, Savannah (Oak); Gabriel, Amber-Lily (Rowan); Macha, Denley (Redwood).

Our footballers will also be proud of their efforts in a city-wide competition; we reached the semi-final stage and have now qualified, along with 3 other Brighton and Hove schools, to play against the highest-performing schools from both East and West Sussex. Well done to: Max, Milo (Oak); Denley (Redwood); George, Toby, Charlie, Noah H (Elder).

**WORKING IN EDUCATION FAIR - Saturday 10 March 2018 - 10:00 am to 3:00 pm**

Brighton & Hove Education Partnership welcomes you to the Working in Education Fair 2018. If you are interested in working or volunteering in education in Brighton & Hove, come along and hear from a range of education professionals from schools, colleges, universities, early years settings, teaching school alliances and council teams that support schools. The event will explore teaching and support staff opportunities in schools and colleges, as well as voluntary positions such as school governors, and also apprenticeships. Throughout the day, attendees can join 30 minute talks with Q&A sessions led by a range of educational experts:

10.30am and 11.30am: Different routes into teaching

11.30am and 12.30pm: Top tips for primary school job applications and interviews

12.30pm and 1.30pm : On the chalk face - what teaching's really like!

1.30pm and 2.30pm: Top tips for secondary school job applications and interviews

2.00pm: Your first year as a Newly Qualified Teacher - what to expect

To register your interest and to receive updates about the event, email [schools.training@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:schools.training@brighton-hove.gov.uk). This event is organised by Brighton & Hove Education Partnership, which aims to improve outcomes for children through the development of strong partnership working in the city.

#### **PTA EVENTS –**

Thanks you to that attended, volunteered and supported the Makers Market Yesterday, the event raised an amazing £651.11!



**Thursday 15th March - Key stage 2 discos**

Yrs 3-4 - 1730-1845

Yrs 5-6 - 1900-2015

**Friday 16th March - Years 1 and 2 - - 1730-1830**

**Friday 23rd March - Butlers Wine Tasting - Come and join us for a fun evening of wine tasting, nibbles and chat.** The Elm Grove wine tasting evening in partnership with the inimitable Henry Butler is a great way to sample new wines, catch up with friends and meet new people! This event is likely to sell out quickly so please book your tickets soon. Please note that all tickets to this event will be sold online. You can book yours

at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/elmgrovepta/135950>

If you are able to volunteer at any of these events, or would like any further information please contact the PTA at [elmgrovepta0@gmail.com](mailto:elmgrovepta0@gmail.com)

The PTA can always be contacted on [elmgrovepta0@gmail.com](mailto:elmgrovepta0@gmail.com) If you have any questions or suggestions please do get in touch.

**REMINDER –** We have several children in school with nut allergies that are also airborne. Please do not send any foods /packed lunches which contain nuts into school. Thank you.

**LOST ITEMS –** Daisy Lynn (Holly) has lost her named Smiggle pink & blue lunch bag. Please bring to the office if you have taken it home by mistake. Thank you

**HOMEWORK GRIDS –** will be sent home on 23.2.2018, 9.3.2018, 23.3.2018. Please look out for them in your child's book bag.

**GARDENING –** Each Friday, children at Elm Grove After School club are getting involved in Blossom Garden gardening projects. Children involved may get quite muddy so you may want to send additional gardening clothes on Friday's (if attending the club). Please speak to club staff for more information.

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## GOLDEN BOOK MERITS

<b>Apple</b>	Scarlet, Fitz, Sam, Marcy, Guy, CC
<b>Cherry</b>	Lola J, Athel, Kimberley
<b>Beech</b>	Otto, Maiwenn, Freddie, Billy, Reid, Caelan
<b>Birch</b>	Remy, Georgia, Lawrence, Verity, Fionn, Maisie
<b>Baobab</b>	Freya, Dolly, Poppy, Bella, Clem, Aletheia
<b>Bonsai</b>	Jaden, Nancy, Rowan, Oscar, Luca, Finlay
<b>Horse Chestnut</b>	Lola, Sammy, Blake, Luca, Willow, Lola
<b>Holly</b>	Sebi, Soli, Imogen, Daisy Lynn, Oscar, Charlie S
<b>Cedar</b>	Sophia, Anna, Theo, Niall, Zou Zou, Wilfred
<b>Cypress</b>	Macey, Franklin, Sky, Enzo, Alice, Charlie, Miranda, Aoife, Scarlett
<b>Redwood</b>	Adam, Seth, Grace
<b>Rowan</b>	Jack, Betty, Amber-Lily, Amelie, Alithia, Abdul
<b>Elder</b>	William, Sylvester, Elliot, Noah B, Amber, Harrison
<b>Oak</b>	The whole class, Leo, Mate, Dante, Albert, Eva, Savannah

**2017-18 remaining INSET dates:**  
Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July

Best wishes,  
*Louise Willard*  
Head teacher

**NEWSLETTER - If you have a visual impairment, a copy of the newsletter is available in large print from the office.**

## DIARY DATES

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
27.02.2018 & 28.02.2018	Parents Evening (in Main Hall – not Restaurant) More information to follow
w/b 26.02.2018	Book Week
02.03.2018	Book Week -dress up as your favourite book character day
07.03.2018	Year 2 SATs talk for parents/carers
w/b 12.03.2018	Science Week
15.03.2018	PTA KS2 Disco
16.03.2018	PTA KS1 Disco
23.03.2018	PTA Butlers Wine Tasting
28.03.2018	Singing assembly performance – Y3/4/5 & 6 times TBC
28.03.2018	Last day of term
28.03.2018	Non School Uniform Day
12.04.2018	Children return to school
30.04.2018- 02.05.2018	Y4 residential
05.05.2018	Children's Parade

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