



Newsletter

Head Teacher: Ms Louise Willard

Elm Grove, Brighton, BN2 3ES
Telephone: 01273 708004 Fax: 01273 708300
admin@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk
www.elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Number 1 – 6th September 2021

Next INSET Day -
Tuesday 4th
January 2022



The children need to be congratulated on how well they managed their return to school on the first week back, especially given all the changes now COVID restrictions have been relaxed. I need to give a special mention to our new pupils who have settled in so well already. It has been lovely to start to welcome our new Reception cohort and families too. We hope your children flourish during their time at Elm Grove.

We are also delighted to welcome three new midday meal supervisors onto the team: Mrs Bilkis, Ms Cole and Mrs Redfarn.

COVID update

School staff continue to ensure the school building is well ventilated and all children follow good hand hygiene advice.

We ask that parents and carers monitor their children closely and isolate any symptomatic children at home, get a PCR test and report the results to the school office (admin@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk).

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.

Memory Run

Congratulation to the Elm Grove staff members who braved the 5.30am start to participate in the 5.3km run on Friday 10th September in memory of Val Gates, who had signed up to do the run. Also, well done to those who got up early to cheer them on.

Your messages of condolence and support for the school team and Val's family have been very much appreciated. We will be in touch when the time is right to arrange a special Elm Grove event in Val's memory.



Elm Grove Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and this commitment is reflected in all relevant policies and practice.

Hello from the PTA!

We are looking forward to a first term full of fun and frolics 😊 Welcome to all the new Reception children and if any of the parent carers would like to join the Reception WhatsApp group please text 07709336200 for a link!

In other news we are looking forward to running our usual events this term! Hurrah! These will include:

- 🍷 Cheese and Wine Quiz Night
- 🕺 Discos
- 🍰 Cake sales
- 🎃 Pumpkin carving competition
- 🌍 Around the World World Cup School celebrations (this is a new one for us so any ideas and help would be very appreciated)
- 🎄 Winter Fair

We would also like to announce our Great Restaurant Raffle! All prizes are from Brighton's best restaurants, pubs and cafes! Top prizes include £100 from Restaurants Brighton to spend in a child friendly venue of your choice, tea for 2 at the Ivy, a champagne brunch at Star Fish and Coffee and dozens more! We'll be sending out full details in the near future but the draw will be the 22nd October!

If you are in a position to offer restaurant, cafe, pub prizes please contact us! Elmgrovepta0@gmail.com

If you would like to help facilitate any of the events coming up or have your own idea you'd like to run with please contact us! Elmgrovepta0@gmail.com

Proposed PTA events for the Autumn Term

- New parents coffee morning in the blossom garden 29th/30th Sept date TBC
- 14th/15th October DISCOS
- 22nd October year 3 cake sale pumpkin carving competition. Restaurant raffle draw.
- 11th Dec winter fair
- 17th Dec year 4 cake sale

Thank you from the PTA! 🙏



DREAM STREET - the exhibition of the children's My Dream Street posters begins today, Monday, 13th September in the foyer at Jubilee Library and will run until the 26th: [My Dream Street children's exhibition \(brighton-hove.gov.uk\)](http://MyDreamStreetchildrensexhibition.brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Wednesday 22nd –September - Car Free Day - events in the city relating to this: [Car Free Day \(brighton-hove.gov.uk\)](http://CarFreeDay.brighton-hove.gov.uk)



2021-22 Elm Grove School Improvement Priorities:

- Improve outcomes for vulnerable groups (SEND, Pupil Premium pupils & those most affected by COVID) by offering bespoke learning opportunities
- Further improve the quality of teaching and learning by deploying members of the senior leadership team to be critical and challenging 'friends'
- Continue to improve outcomes in English to ensure whole school consistency with regard to phonics, grammar, spelling, handwriting and the love of reading, using the new DfE Reading Framework
- Enhance the Ofsted framework to further develop the provision of foundation subjects acknowledging issues such as, climate change and black history
- Rigorous investigation in ways to ensure respect for all communities, celebrating diversity and challenging discrimination
- Improve outcomes in maths through further developing the mastery approach and strategies such as 'same day intervention'
- Enable children to have access to an inspiring broad and balanced curriculum which encourages collaboration, problem solving, critical thinking, metacognition and high aspirations for their future
- The use of staff research in order to make sure that the school has a clear focus on self-improvement

Elm Grove Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and this commitment is reflected in all relevant policies and practice.

URGENT



In preparation to re-open our OPAL sheds in the next fortnight, we need to replenish the selection of 'loose parts' in them. We are looking forward to once again seeing the children creating camps, inventing a range of imaginative games and having lots of fun with the resources found in the sheds. However, stocks are very low due to the sheds being shut for such an extended period.

Please see the list of suggested items we are looking for:

Planks

Ropes

Pots, Pans & utensils

Logs

Old curtains

Quilt covers

Blankets

Guttering

Pipes

Poles

Cushions

Unwanted toys and games

Dressing up clothes

Suitcases

Chalks

All donations will be gratefully received. Please deposit them in the containers labelled 'loose parts' at the rear of the car park. Many thanks. Please see the [OPAL leaflet](#) to find out more about the initiative if you are new to the school.

Please visit our Elm Grove **School website** if you want to find out information about the school. This includes policy documentation, club details, COVID updates, newsletters, calendar dates, year group information, a gallery of photos – plus more. The website is regularly updated to ensure it is as current as possible: [Elm Grove Primary School, Brighton](#)

STUDYBUGS

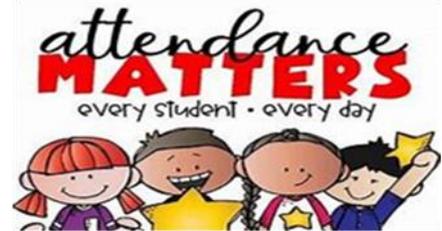
We would like to encourage all families, who have not already, to sign up and engage with the StudyBugs application. StudyBugs is an app that tracks what bugs are going around and allows parents to quickly and easily report student absence. You can report an absence via your phone or computer in just seconds.

<https://studybugs.com/>

Parent/Carer WhatsApp Groups

Did you know that every year group at Elm Grove has a parent WhatsApp group? This is a parent run group chat (not run by or including school staff) that is used by many parents to communicate information about social events. It is a chance to get to know the other parents in your child's class and be involved in activities run by the PTA and other parents. Each year group has its own group which is created by a member of the PTA with a child in that year. Each of these PTA year group reps are there ensure that all families are welcomed onto the groups.

If you would like to join your child/ren's group chat you can email admin@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk with your mobile number and we will pass this along to your child/ren's year group rep.



Thank you for supporting our school attendance focus. We really appreciate the efforts families go to to ensure good attendance, even with the many challenges of the past year. Thank you.

Please park carefully when dropping children off at school, and DO NOT move any safety cones.

Elm Grove Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and this commitment is reflected in all relevant policies and practice.

HARMONICA CLUB – WHERE MUSICIANS ARE MADE!

Places are now available in our Lunchtime Harmonica Club, which meets for half an hour on Tuesdays (from 21st September for 10 weeks). Students have plenty of time to eat lunch and enjoy music making too. Run by Harp Academy, club sessions include learning popular tunes, developing key instrument skills, exploring the musical elements, and building towards short performances. All newcomers receive a FREE TASTER SESSION and FREE STARTER HARMONICA. If you can breathe in and out, you can play - come and try! To register visit www.harpacademy.co.uk and click the Gold Harmonica, or call Richard Taylor on 07525 256954.



HOGDA SUSSEX – GO FOR IT!

Helen O'Grady Academy, Sussex are offering new pupils **TRIALS** to attend their friendly and inclusive drama classes. **WE ARE BACK** running our popular after school **Wednesday** club at Elm Grove Primary School (AGES 4-11), delivering an award winning & nurturing curriculum. To book a place & see your child's confidence **GROW** call Gareth on: **07980 607139** or email sussex@helenogrady.co.uk / www.helenogrady.co.uk.

COVID TESTING

Families and households can access home test kits for adults. Follow the link to find out more: <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19->



ALLERGEN UPDATE

Please contact the school office (admin@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk) if your child develops a new allergy/ intolerance, or any details the school needs to be aware of change.

BOOK AMNESTY – the school is missing quite a few of its home school reading books. We would really appreciate families looking for any school books at home and returning them to school staff or the office. Many thanks.



DIARY DATES

Date	Event
October dates TBC	Parents Eve
Thursday 14 th October	New Parent Tour PTA Disco
Friday 15 th October	Just One Tree fundraiser PTA Disco
Wednesday 20 th October	New Parent Tour
Thursday 21 st October	Harvest Festival
Friday 22 nd October	Last day of half term Non uniform day Y3 PTA Cake Sale/Pumpkin carving competition/Raffle
Saturday 11 th December	PTA Winter Fair
Friday 17 th December	Last day of term Non uniform day Y4 PTA Cake Sale

NEWSLETTER - Large print copies are available at the office

Louise Willard

Head teacher

Elm Grove Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and this commitment is reflected in all relevant policies and practice.