

Number 15 – 9th May 2022

**Next INSET Day –
 Monday 6th June**



A massive thank you and well done to everyone who contributed to our fantastic Children’s Parade entry on Saturday May 7th. The Samba band played throughout, the dancers danced and placard holders chanted. It was a wonderful spectacle, a credit to the school and great to be part of after the two year gap.

A special mention and thank you to the key parents, carers and friends who worked so hard to build ‘Tiny’ the Mighty Recycling Whale.

We hope to display the beautifully drawn Elm Grove banner and whale structure within the school. We’d love to see your photos of the day. Please email ones you would be happy for us to use on the school website to: ailsahickman@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Parents and carers may be interested in signing up to The Big Plastic Count. [How it works | The Big Plastic Count](#), which runs from 16th – 22nd May 2022.

Attendance - thank you for your continued support in working with us to improve attendance at Elm Grove. Having looked at the past terms registers we are aware that a large amount of late marks are negatively impacting our overall attendance. If we could all work together to ensure children arrive on time, 8.50am for a prompt 9am start, this would have a positive impact not only on the children's start to the day but also drastically improve overall attendance. Should you need any support or advice please contact Sam and Tammy



URGENT

More ‘Loose Parts’ needed for the playground sheds – our stocks of loose parts are running very low and are in need of revitalising for our OPAL playtimes. Please donate any items you can to the ‘loose parts’ collection point in the staff car park. Please note – the container is currently situated at the top of the car park. Thank you!
 Some examples of what we need are:

- Empty cable reels
- Decking or plank offcuts
- Guttering, tubes or pipes
- Logs and tree ‘cookies’
- Crates
- Blankets/sheets/cushions

[OPAL Play – Elm Grove Primary School, Brighton](#)



Composting at Elm Grove

Elm Grove school is very happy to announce the opening of the School composting project.

Donations of compost are welcome in biodegradable bags or straight from your compost caddy into the brown wheelie bin in the carpark by the Reception entrance.

Please have a look at the following link to see what can and cannot be composted.

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/composting/ingredients/what-can-you-compost.htm>

Please no meat, fat, eggshells or diseased/noxious weeds.

Hopefully we will be able to produce our own soil mixture as time goes by and certainly be self sufficient and peat-free for all future planting in Elm Grove School gardens.

Our aim is for each class to have a composting caddy. We would be very happy to take donations of plastic tubs with lids that could be used as composting caddies.

KS2 Sports Day - We recently discovered that the date of our KS2 Sports Day at Withdean Stadium clashes with the day that most of our Y6 children will be visiting their secondary schools. As a result, we have moved the date for KS2 Sports Day, and it will now take place on **TUESDAY 12th July**

Parent Governor Vacancy: We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor to join the governing body team and another position starting in June. You do not need to be an expert in education - we would be delighted to hear from anyone who is interested in children's education and the performance of the school and has time to attend meetings and carry out termly visits to the school. For more information please see the letter attached. A limited number of paper copy letters will also be available in the school office.



BLOSSOM GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

alternate Saturdays
10.30am-12pm



****DATES FOR YOUR DIARY****

Blossom Garden Parent Volunteer Sessions
Make the most of the Spring weather by coming along to a fun gardening session. The next date is:

- Saturday May 21st

Sessions are 10.30am - 12pm, meet at the car park metal gates or call Emma on 07737 926 442 if you can only drop in for a short while.

Everyone welcome. Just bring gardening gloves if you have some. If you have to bring kids to be able to come, please have them bring a ball or game so they can occupy themselves in the basketball court.

See you there!



Food Assistance- The last 2 years have been a difficult time and we know that many families are struggling with money and affording healthy food for their family. However, there is support available. You may be eligible for **free school meals** for your child [Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-free-school-meals)

The **Brighton and Hove Food Partnership** has lots of useful information on how to access emergency food parcels <https://bhfood.org.uk/resources/accessing-emergency-food-parcels/>

Everyone across the City can **buy low-cost shopping** if they need to. More information is available here: <https://bhfood.org.uk/how-to-hub/low-cost-and-free-community-shopping/>
If you are pregnant or have a child under 4 you may also be able to get help to buy milk, fruit and vegetables. [Get help to buy food and milk \(Healthy Start\)](#).

If you would like any more information on any of the above, please talk to Sam or Tammy based in **The Nest** (InclusionTeam@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

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.



**** PTA NEWS ****

Save up your pennies - Y4 are baking! They will be holding this term's cake sale on Friday 27th May after school in the top playground. We will also have a Jubilee themed drawing competition - all pictures need to be sent to the office with your child's name & year group by the morning of 27th May. There will be a winner (and prize!) for every year group. Get creative!

Monday 13th June - our very first Chuckles for Charity comedy night at Komedia is nearly sold out! Go

to www.komedia.co.uk/brighton/comedy/chuckles-for-charity-elm-grove-primary-school-fundraiser/ to buy your ticket if you haven't already. We have an amazing line up, hosted by Jen Brister, we have Joe Wilkinson, Kerry Godliman, Zoe Lyons, Laura Lexx, Angela Barnes, Michael Fabbri, Ingrid Dahle & Maureen Younger. We will also have a raffle on the night, £100 top cash 1st prize from Lewes Rd Inn, £50 Theatre Royal voucher, £25 Komedia voucher, £10 Picture House voucher plus signed merchandise! Help us raise much needed funds for the school whilst having a laugh!

Saturday 25th June - Summer Arts Festival in the Blossom Garden. Come and enjoy the children singing, dancing, playing instruments and performing on stage! The event will be free to enter but still a fantastic opportunity for fundraising with games, bouncy castle, BBQ, cakes and candy floss. More info to come nearer the day - get the date in your diary!

The PTA have sourced and paid for 15 tablets for use by the children in the school, they should be in the classrooms in the next couple of weeks. We also funded the school's incredible efforts at this year's Children's Parade. Please continue to support our events by donating, volunteering and coming on the day!

Thank you, the PTA x



Mobile phone reminder – only Year 6 pupils are permitted to bring mobile phones to school. Pupils in Y5 can only bring them in with written permission. **ALL** phones **MUST** be handed in to the class teacher each morning. They will be stored safely during the day and then returned at home time. Thank you for your support with this. It avoids phones being lost or stolen during the day, as well as any safeguarding incidents.

SCHOOL UNIFORM – All children are expected to wear Elm Grove uniform colours of green, white and grey – in any combination. (NB this can include jogging bottoms and hoodies). No items with logos please, apart from the optional Elm Grove logo. We have made the decision to say grey, not black tights/leggings. We also ask that the children wear sensible, school appropriate shoes and that all items are clearly named..

<https://www.elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk/information/school-uniform/>



The next homework grid will be published on Friday 13th May

The homework grids will be uploaded onto the homework page of the school website: [Homework – Elm Grove Primary School, Brighton](#)

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.



GOLDEN BOOK MERITS



Apple	Maryam, Kier, Frankie, Harry, Agnes C & Leon
Cherry	Leo, Belle, Ellie, Emily, Aggie & Jackson
Beech	Jess, Eddie, Joshua, Jago, River & Echo
Birch	Eli, Violet, Saffron, Felix, Mya & Mia
Baobab	Charlie, Belle, Stanley, India, Arthur & Reuben
Bonsai	Sam W, Ethan, Juno, Rudy, Sam C & Ornette
Holly	Minnie, Elina & Ollie
Horse Chestnut	Titus, Eli, Gracie, Robyn, Niko & Fred
Cedar	Arthur, Rosie, Cleo, Willow, Scarlett, Joseph & Jayden
Cypress	Finley, Josha & Cheyenne
Redwood	Vinnie, Anya, Sophie, Monte, Danny & Bethan
Rowan	Remy, Matilda, Reid, Winnie, Edward & Ebba
Elder	Herbie, Heath, Jaden & All of Year 6
Oak	Joey, Caden, Finn, Coco, Alethia & Finlay

DIARY DATES

Date	Event
w/b Monday 9 th May	Year 6 SATs
Wednesday 25 th May	Class photographs
Friday 27 th May	Last day of half term
Monday 6 th June	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 7 th June	Children return to school
Monday 13 th June	PTA Chuckles for comedy
Friday 24 th June	KS1 (Y1 & 2) Sports Day
Saturday 25 th June	PTA Summer event
Tuesday 12 th July	Reception Sports Day
Tuesday 12 th July	KS2 Sports Day (Withdean Stadium)
Friday 15 th July	Annual reports sent home to parents and carers
Wednesday 20 th July	Last day of term for pupils

NEWSLETTER - Large print copies are available at the office

Louise Willard

Head teacher