



# Newsletter

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Number 3 –7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Next INSET  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January



## Harvest Festival

Elm Grove Primary School is one of more than 25 local schools who have signed up to the Food Partnerships campaign for a city-wide harvest festival campaign – to drive food donations to local food banks/projects, alongside sharing useful information to support people through the winter months and creating positive community stories. Elm Grove's Harvest Festival is on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October in the main hall. The school is asking for dry food donations to stock up the PTA's new food pantry. The pantry will make a real practical difference to our local community and it requires our support to get going.

Please bring any donations to the school office the week beginning Monday October 17<sup>th</sup>, or on the day. Only give donations if you are able to do so - don't leave your own household short.

Year 1, 2 and 5 = 10am – 10.30am

Y3, 4 and 6 = 12.00 noon – 12.30pm

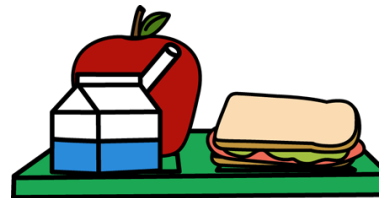
Parents and carers are welcome to attend - but please note, space may well be tight due to hall capacity.

The Food Partnership has created a range of booklets with recipes & information around saving money on food : [Cooking on a budget](#), [Cooking with limited equipment](#) and [Low energy cooking](#) alongside [details of how to access emergency food support](#)

## Our Shopping List for Donations

Any donation is gratefully received but if you can bring in items on this list we can try to give more choice to our recipients

- Tinned soup
- Tinned baked beans
- Tinned spaghetti
- Tinned stew
- Tinned chicken
- Tinned ham
- Corned beef
- Tinned mixed veg
- Tinned peas
- Tinned sweetcorn
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned black beans
- Tinned lentils
- Tinned kidney beans
- Tinned mixed beans
- Tinned barlotti beans
- Tinned coconut milk



## Pre-order School Dinners with ParentPay

We have now set up a pre-booking system through ParentPay in which you can book your child's school dinner at home up to 10 weeks in advance. This will help the school minimise food waste, minimise pupil's choosing the wrong choice or forgetting to choose at all and reduces administrative burden on the school staff.

Find out how to use the pre-booking system here: <https://parent-support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4410744979473-How-to-make-meal-or-event-bookings#how-to-make-meal-or-event-bookings-0-0>

Video instructions: <https://parent-support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/6265244826257--VIDEO-How-to-book-a-meal>

Pupil's will still be able to choose their dinners in class in the morning if they wish. But we do recommend this pre booking system especially for Reception and KS1 pupils.

Please note: If you have pre-booked a dinner and your child is then absent from school it is the parent/carers responsibility to cancel the booking or you will still be charged.

*If you are booking a school dinner in the morning each day it must be done before 9.30am.*



Our school will be taking part in Just One Tree Day on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October. Each child is being encouraged to wear non school uniform and bring in £1 to fund the planting of their tree. Just One Tree makes it simple for everyone to take collective action on the climate crisis because Just £1 plants 1 Tree. More information can be found at:

<https://www.justonetree.life/>

We look forward to counting the number of trees that our school community can plant!

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.



We've had a busy week planning upcoming events with our most anticipated (amongst the children at least!) - the **DISCOS**. This year we're asking children to either come in fancy dress or dress fancy, whatever they like, anything goes! There will be snacks, glowsticks, tuck shop and games.

**Friday November 4th** Reception disco on at 15:30 to 16:30pm and Years 3 & 4 at 17:00 - 18:30

**Friday November 11th** Years 1 & 2 at 15:30 to 16:30 and Years 5 & 6 at 17:00 to 18:30

More detailed information will be sent out about the discos next week, including guides to parental supervision for KS1 pupils. The discos are a lot of fun so please watch out for more news on the events and Volunteer SignUp sheets.

We are also on the lookout for a **NEW DJ** – all we need is for someone to rock up with their computer or device and plug in to the school sound system. We have all of the leads and the mic, even playlists that have worked well in the past, we just need someone to take to the mic! If you're interested and available, please email Becky on [elmgrovepta0@gmail.com](mailto:elmgrovepta0@gmail.com).

The end of term **YEAR 6 CAKE SALE** will be held on Friday 21st October after school in the top playground. All Year 6 children are asked to contribute with either home-made or shop bought cakes. Please contact your Year 6 rep if you have any questions.

Pumpkins at the ready – it's our **annual PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION** on Monday 31st October – Halloween! This is the first day back after half term. Please can all children bring their carved pumpkins on Monday morning drop off to the top playground. Suggested donation £1/pumpkin. Mrs Willard will judge the pumpkins with a prize for every year group and an overall top prize given out at the end of the day. Pumpkins can then all be taken home to be lit for Halloween J Also this year for the creative grown-ups out there, we will be holding our first **GROWN UP CARVING COMPETITION** - £5 entry with the winning pumpkin rewarded with a bottle of champagne!

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

It may only be October but the PTA are beginning to make plans for our **WINTER MAKERS MARKET & FAIR** to be held on Saturday 10th December. If you are a maker and would like to reserve a table please email Becky on [elmgrovepta0@gmail.com](mailto:elmgrovepta0@gmail.com). Do you have your own small business, something you do on the side, or is your child a whiz at making something special? All are welcome. We will also have our incredible Santa's Grotto, games & craft, café and raffle.

Lastly plans for our **PANTRY** are well underway – our beautiful wooden pantry will be built over half term next to the existing bike shed at the front of the school. In the mean time we will be asking for donations at the Harvest Assembly on Thursday 20th October to get our pantry off the ground. This will then be open to all families over half term. The PTA are also creating cookery bags for children to take home over half term and for those attending to cook at the holiday club. If you can help us get our pantry up and running please contact Beccs at [becs.elmgrovepta@gmail.com](mailto:becs.elmgrovepta@gmail.com). Perhaps you can help connect us to other food groups and organisations, or you can collect our pre-ordered food shops, make posters for our publicity or help manage the pantry itself. All help is most welcome!

Thanks as always, your PTA x



### Parents Evening Information

The autumn term parents evening appointments will be taking place on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> of November. The parents evening appointments will run from 3.50pm to 6.20pm with appointments lasting 10minutes. This parents evening will be held in person not on MS Teams. Appointments will be available to book via SchoolPing from Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> of October. If you cannot access SchoolPing you can book an appointment via email or phone call to the school office:01273 708004

**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.



### Secondary School Applications

The closing date for Year 6 applications to transfer to secondary school in September 2023 is the **31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**.

Guidance on the application process is available on the council website here: [School application guides](#)

Online applications are open on the council website here: [Apply for a school place](#)

We recommend that parents apply online as this means they will receive an automatic confirmation of their application. It also means they will receive an offer from us by email on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023. If parents are unable to apply online they can apply by downloading an application form using this link: [Download school application forms](#). Please contact the school office if you need any support with this.

Email offers in response to online applications will be made after noon on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023. Offer *letters* in response to paper applications will be posted first class on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 which means they will not be received until after 1<sup>st</sup> March. **No decisions will be given by telephone**

### Secondary school tour dates:

Cardinal Newman 19<sup>th</sup> October time TBC

All information about secondary school tours has been sent out via SchoolPing. We will continue to send information about further secondary school tours/visits who we have not yet received information for.

### Monkey bars and chin up bars

Thank you for your patience whilst we await the completion of the new monkey bars and chin up bars on the top playground.

We are expecting this to be done next Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> October, weather permitting. The children will then be able to start using the new equipment as soon as the new safe playground surface is fully dry.



### Be Bright Be Seen

Sustrans 'Bike It Lucy' will be in assembly on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November to talk about being bright and being seen during the autumn and winter months. She's inviting all children to Bling Up their bikes, scooters, coats or shoes and bring them in on the day. We will be having parades around the playground to celebrate being seen. Ideas for decorating bikes, scooters, coats and shoes can include tinfoil, tinsel, cardboard, pipe cleaners or anything you have lying around the house. Be creative and get colouring anything that's not bright enough and don't forget to send your child in with a bike helmet if you bring a bike in (Lucy will have a couple of spares on the day). Any questions please contact Lucy 07768 424363 / [lucy.dance@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:lucy.dance@sustrans.org.uk)

### INSET Day Date Change

Please note a date change in the summer term 2023.

The school will now be closed to pupils for an INSET day on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June**, not Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May as was previously stated.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Please find an updated school calendar attached.

### Elm Grove 2022-23 Curriculum Map

See the document attached to this newsletter outlining curriculum coverage across the school in all subject areas.

More information about progression in specific subjects can be found on our website:

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

### ALLERGEN UPDATE



Please contact the school office ([admin@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto: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.

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### Online internet safety guidance

It is really important to chat with your children on an ongoing basis about staying safe online. Not sure where to begin? These conversation starter suggestions can help:

> Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online. What games do you and your friends like to play online? Can you show me the websites you visit the most? Shall we play your favourite game online together?

> Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?

> Ask them if they know where to go for help. Where can they go to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use?

> Think about how you each use the internet. What more could you do to use the internet together? Are there activities that you could enjoy as a family?

More guidance available at:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



### Helping your child's learning at home

Please find Elm Grove Homework Policy attached to this newsletter.

Homework is an aspect of school-life that is often controversial. Some parents and carers think that children should be doing a lot of it; others believe that there is no place for it at all.

At Elm Grove we believe that homework is important:

- To connect parents and carers to their child's learning
- To consolidate learning and support the learning at school
- To give children a chance to try out and share their new learning at home
- To gain fluency by repetition
- To connect learning to the world outside school
- To get ready for secondary school and life-long learning

Supporting your child's learning at home can help their development and be a really positive addition to their school education. Getting into a routine and speaking positively about school and education can help support your child's learning at home.

Look out for the next homework grid on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October**



### Halloween October Playscheme

Running from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October until Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> 2022. Places must be booked by October 7<sup>th</sup> 2022. Short days 9am-3pm cost £35 and full days 8am-6pm cost £40. There is a 10% discount for those on benefit related free school meals, SEN with a diagnosis and/or EHCP and 10% discount for siblings. Please note there is only one discount per child.

Places need to be paid for at time of booking, proof of FSMs/SEN eligibility is also required at time of booking or before the specified date.

Book via this link:

<https://forms.gle/W62uQXSsaGpVH9aW7>



Let your friends and neighbours know that if their child is going starting school in September 2023 they can visit Elm Grove for a school tour. See the available dates on our school website and the diary below.

For more information on applying for a Primary school place please go to: <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/children-and-learning/brighton-hove-schools/starting-infant-junior-or-primary-school>

**The deadline to apply to start primary school in September 2023 is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023.**

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**B&H Family Information Service:  
Get support for your family**

The Family Information Service is part of the [Front Door for Families](#). You can get information about local services for families, childcare and childcare funding.

You can use our [online Family Service Directory](#) to search for services and childcare.

You can also view our factsheets which include:

- advice for separated parents
- local support for your family
- new to living in Brighton & Hove
- financial help

**Practical help**

We can offer direct short term support for families who need help with: food and energy costs

- money, debts and benefits
- grant and funding applications for essential items
- getting into work and training

If you already have a social worker or other professional working with your family, you can ask them to make a referral. You can also use our online form to ask for help.

**Childcare and childcare funding**

Get more information about [local Ofsted registered childcare providers and what funding you can get](#).

**How to get in touch**

To ask for information from the Family Information Service:

- [use our online form](#)
- phone 01273 293 545 to speak to an adviser

Our telephone helpline is open Monday to Friday 9:30am to 1:30pm.

**Blossom Garden volunteers**

It's time to restart our Blossom Garden parent/carer volunteer sessions.

We'd love to welcome some new faces this term, as some of our group were Y6 parents who have now left. If you like the idea of contributing something to the school, having a decent work out in the fresh air in sociable company, join us!

Sessions are alternate Saturdays, 10.30am-12pm, drop in for as much or as little time as you have, no obligation to come every time. All equipment provided but helpful to bring your own gardening gloves if you have them. If you'd like a reminder just before each session, text Emma on 07737 926 442 and she'll add you to the WhatsApp group (only fortnightly messages to confirm numbers).

**OCTOBER DATES**

8th and 24th (first day of half term)

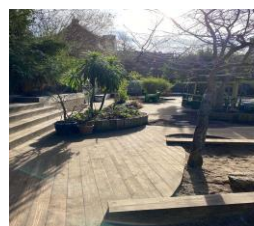
**NOVEMBER DATES**

5th and 19th

**DECEMBER DATES**

3rd

We hope to see you there on a Saturday soon!



**GOLDEN BOOK MERITS**

<b>Beech</b>	Eleanor C, Jackson, Joshua, Nemo, Rusty & Elsie
<b>Birch</b>	Annie, Pearl, Rudy, Ellis, Frankie & Harper
<b>Baobab</b>	Ibuki, Eddie, Estelle, Ivy, Isaac & Mina
<b>Bonsai</b>	Ayeza, Jack, Jenny, Saffy, Eli & Robyn
<b>Holly</b>	Ilsa C, Jake, Juno, Amari, Momo & Dulcie
<b>Horse Chestnut</b>	Ripley, India, Charlie, Oscar, Samuel & Mei
<b>Cedar</b>	Harrison, Tristan & Marley
<b>Cypress</b>	Sully-Blu, Evellyn, Solomon, Nathan, Teddy & Maja
<b>Redwood</b>	Kaspar, Samuel H, Anna, Isaac, Indi & Toby
<b>Rowan</b>	Joseph, Emily, Jayden, Alex & Jaidah
<b>Elder</b>	Dougie, Billy, Olivia S, George, Georgia & Sydney
<b>Oak</b>	Winnie, Sonny, Esme,

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## DIARY DATES

Date	Event
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Prospective parent tour
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Just One Tree – non uniform day/ £1 donation
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Prospective parent tour
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Prospective parent tour
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival (more info to follow)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Last day of half term PTA Y6 cake sale
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Children return to school PTA Pumpkin carving competition
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Bling Up Your Bike Day
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Prospective parent tour
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA Discos Reception and Y3 &4
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Prospective parent tour
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Eve 3.40- 6.20pm
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Flu immunisation & Prospective parent tour
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parents Eve 3.40- 6.20pm
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA Discos Y1 & 2 and Y3 &4
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Individual photos
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Prospective parent tour x2
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	OPAL play parent/carer meeting a.m.
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA Makers Market 12-4pm
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term PTA Xmas raffle

## NEWSLETTER - Large print copies are available at the office



Head teacher