



# Newsletter

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Number 8 – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

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



Have a wonderful break everyone and thank you for all the support you have given the school, children and Elm Grove community over the past term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in 2023 on Wednesday January 4<sup>th</sup> at the usual time (8.50am doors open, all children expected to be in class and ready for learning by 9am).

2022 has been another challenging year for many across the country, as well as within our own community. We certainly hope that things improve in 2023. Thank-you to the governors, staff, PTA, families and pupils for being such a great team and making a difference in so many ways.

The PTA pantry has been a most welcome addition to the school and it will be open next Tues 20<sup>th</sup>, Weds 21<sup>st</sup> and Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> December 9am -3pm for anyone needing to access it. The main school gate will be open as the holiday club is on so it will be easily accessible.

## ALLERGEN UPDATE



Please contact the school office if your child develops a new allergy/ intolerance, or any details the school needs to be aware of change.



## Our City, Our World

### Our City Our World

Our City Our World is a Brighton and Hove climate change, sustainability and environmental education programme that aim to use the power of education to advance environmental literacy and social engagement to contribute to a more equitable and sustainable future.

At Elm Grove we are one of a group of schools developing a sustainability, climate change and environmental education strategy for Brighton & Hove schools alongside Our City Our World. We are interested in the views of parents and carers and would appreciate you filling in this short survey:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=OXJzdPYfHU-7PFTszRVnlbT2eIN0celAp2qpDTA292IUQkdRSEdZQlc3OUiIRVaxRFRRNjIQ2QVVTQy4u>

Here is the swimming timetable for the Spring/Summer terms:

Term	Start Date	End Date	Classes
Spring 1	Thursday 5th January	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	HCN, Cypress, Rowan & Oak
Spring 2	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Holly, Cedar, Redwood & Elder
Summer 1	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	HCN, Cypress, Rowan & Oak
Summer 2	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Holly, Cedar, Redwood & Elder

**Homework** – the children will not be set any homework over the school holidays. Next half term please look out for homework grids on:

Friday 13.1.23  
Friday 27.1.23  
Friday 10.2.2023

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.



Thank you to everyone who came to our Christmas Fair and Makers Market – it was a wonderful success and we raised nearly £2000! This has enabled us to make up the funds needed for the school to buy blinds for the hall, so hopefully we should see these in the new year. Thanks must also go to everyone who volunteered, made, baked and helped – we can't put on events without you, so huge thank you!

We also had a lovely, if chilly, evening serving hot drinks and mince pies at the KS2 carol concert, raising £128 and doing our bit to stave off freezing fingers ☺

This week we have our last cake sale of the year, hosted by Y2 this afternoon in the top playground after school. Please come along, all cakes and bakes 50p.

We will also be drawing the winners out of the hat for our Kids Christmas Raffle at the cake sale. Thank you to all of our prize donors and everyone who has entered and donated – at the time of writing we have raised £815! All prizes will be given to the winners who are at the draw, for any not there we will contact the remaining winners via email/phone before Christmas.

Huge thanks must go to everyone for their ongoing support and use of the Pantry. The school kindly made the Pantry the cause for collections at the Christmas concerts and we raised nearly £500 – this will go a huge way to help us keep the Pantry stocked over winter. We have also had some very generous donations to our Pantry Local Giving page as well as ongoing donations of food, personal care products and household items. The Pantry will be open Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Weds 21<sup>st</sup> and Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> December 9am-3pm, before closing for Christmas and reopening on the first day of term Weds 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Thank you for a wonderful year of fundraising and support for the school and the families in our community. This term the PTA have funded:

- The ongoing top playground renovations and repairs
- Building and operating The Pantry
- The OPAL donations shed

- New Reception reading books
- New Year 3 reading books
- 22 brand new Lego therapy sets & 21 second hand sets
- Snacks for children using the Nest
- Whole school Christmas show with Al Start
- Outdoor lights for the Christmas show
- Christmas party hats for the Christmas lunch

We could not do this without you! Thank you and Merry Christmas!  
The PTA x

### Christmas Treat

Thank you so much to the PTA for funding this weeks Christmas treat for all classes. Al Start, a local Brighton musician and friend of Elm Grove School, performed on Wednesday – the children certainly looked like they thoroughly enjoyed it. It made Christmas dinner day even more special for them.

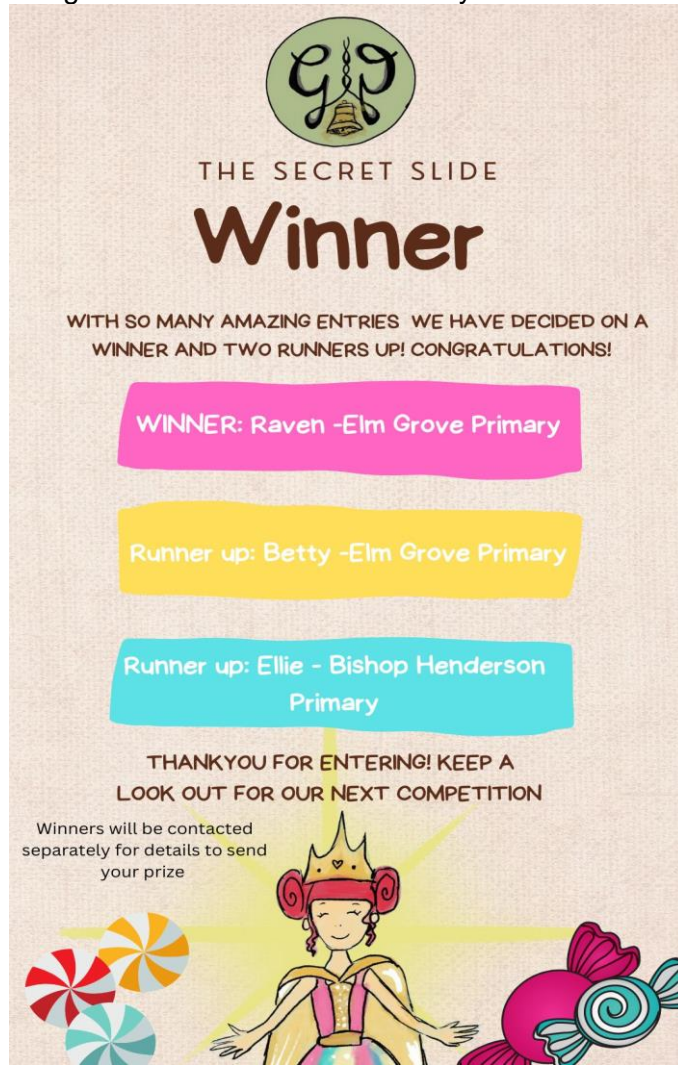
Find out about Al Start's shows and buy tickets at: [www.gokidmusic.com/tickets](http://www.gokidmusic.com/tickets) (she is doing a Happy New Year Show on Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Jan at 2pm at The Brunswick)  
Info: [info@gokidmusic.com](mailto:info@gokidmusic.com)



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Well done to all the children who entered the recent **Secret Slide competition** after the author, and previous Elm Grove pupil, read the story at an assembly.

Congratulations to Raven and Betty!



THE SECRET SLIDE  
**Winner**

WITH SO MANY AMAZING ENTRIES WE HAVE DECIDED ON A WINNER AND TWO RUNNERS UP! CONGRATULATIONS!

**WINNER: Raven -Elm Grove Primary**

**Runner up: Betty -Elm Grove Primary**

**Runner up: Ellie - Bishop Henderson Primary**

THANKYOU FOR ENTERING! KEEP A LOOK OUT FOR OUR NEXT COMPETITION

Winners will be contacted separately for details to send your prize

### School Uniform Reminder

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/>

**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.

### Winter water safety advice

RLSS UK has issued safety advice to ensure everyone is aware of the dangers around frozen water and what to do in an emergency. “The cold weather we saw at the weekend meant that many bodies of water froze over and created hazardous conditions. We appreciate the temptation to walk across or play on the frozen water but we would like to urge everyone to know what dangers are associated with frozen water.

- > Never venture onto frozen water. Even if it appears thick from the bank, it becomes thinner very quickly.
- > Adults – set a good example to children by staying off the ice yourselves.
- > If a dog or other animal ventures onto the ice, or falls through it, do not go onto the ice to rescue it – you are likely to end up in the freezing water and unable to help the animal.
- > Never throw sticks or balls onto the ice for your dog – keep them on a lead near frozen water. Over 50% of ice related drownings involve the attempted rescue of a dog!

If you do see a person or animal in trouble in icy water, stay on the bank and phone 999. If you can reach the person with a branch, clothing tied together or other items then you could try to do so but stay firmly on the bank. Do not become a victim – phone 999!



Same Sky's Burning The Clocks (winter solstice lantern parade and fire/firework show) is back on the 21st December 2022. There are many ways to get involved if you'd like to join in the celebrations, from buying a lantern to volunteering. For more info see here:

<https://samesky.co.uk/events/burning-the-clocks/>

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**Jubilee Library Winter Holiday Club**

This December, Jubilee Library will be running a Holiday Activities & Food Club for children aged 8-11. Funded by HAF in partnership with Brighton Library service, this is open to all children in the city currently **eligible for Free School Meals**. We are inviting children to join us to have fun, learn new skills and meet new friends. We will be offering a programme of exciting activities including film-making, street dance, print-making, art, construction and games.

The club will run **from Monday 19th – Thursday 22nd December from 9:45am-3pm** – apart from the final day, when we will be inviting families to a celebration event to finish at 3:30pm. Each day will feature a programme of varied workshops led by skilled and experienced facilitators including Streetfunk, SilverBox Films, East Side Print, children to get to know each other better. Exploring Senses and Brighton Bricks. The children will be in groups of approx.

12 for these activities. They will also receive a mid-day meal provided by an approved catering company. The children will be registered, supervised and supported by library staff from our children’s team, who will also ensure safeguarding.

There are 48 places in total. We would prefer children to attend all four days; for continuity and also to enable the children to get to know each other better.



**GOLDEN BOOK MERITS**

<b>Beech</b>	Eleanor C, Ellie E, Isla, Maryam, Autumn & Rusty
<b>Birch</b>	Whole class, Cassie, Charlotte & Isla
<b>Baobab</b>	Whole class, Jackson, Oscar & Truman
<b>Bonsai</b>	Whole class
<b>Holly</b>	Whole class, Phoebe, Anika & Luke
<b>Horse Chestnut</b>	Jake, Esme, Kit, Belle, Willow & Charlie
<b>Cedar</b>	Molly, Fabian, Hannah, Eliza, Markos & Marcus
<b>Cypress</b>	Seb, April, Eddie, Bobby, Maia & Sulu-Blu
<b>Redwood</b>	Sienna, Isla, Beau Polly, Tia & Anna
<b>Rowan</b>	Alex D, Rolando, Joseph, Robin & Sienna
<b>Elder</b>	Whole class, Olivia V, Nell & Mason
<b>Oak</b>	Whole class, Billy, Bobby & Maiwenn,

**DIARY DATES**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term PTA Xmas raffle Y2 Xmas cake sale Non Uniform Day
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school

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

*Louise Wickard*

Head teacher