



# 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 7 – 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

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



It's hard to believe it is December already! The children are busy getting ready to perform their festive songs to you at our Christmas shows. It will be the first time the school has been able to invite parents and carers in for a winter celebration since December 2019, so there is plenty of excitement.

I'd like to personally thank our incredible PTA for their amazing fundraising for the school, their community spirit and all the great activities and events they put on. It is much appreciated and adds so much value to the school. Thank you all also for supporting them.

Thank you as well to our wonderful staff team who work tirelessly to support the children and provide the best possible learning opportunities for them.

Like many other public services and schools, Elm Grove is currently experiencing high levels of staff sickness. We do all we can to provide consistent cover for the children but this just isn't always possible due to the availability of cover teachers. Please bear with us if staff and activities get moved around temporarily as a result.

*Louise Willard*

## THINK PLAY before you THROW AWAY!

We are currently collecting loose parts for our OPAL programme.

If you have something old, broken, or taking up space in your home or office, we want you to think of the potential for loose parts play before you throw it away!

Here's a list of items to keep an eye out for:

- Old nets
- Assorted sizes of cardboard boxes (the bigger the better!)
- Sports equipment (pylons, sticks, rope, etc.)
- Furniture (chairs, storage bins, etc.)
- Milk crates
- Art easels
- Old kitchen items (utensils, pots, pans)
- Old electronics (keyboards, telephones, fax machines, etc.)
- Landscaping scraps (wood stumps, cut branches, etc.)

Thank you for supporting enriched outdoor play at our school! Please leave any donations in the Opal Play drop off shed opposite the Pantry.



## 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.

**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.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> December

The **CHRISTMAS FAIR & MAKERS MARKET** is in ONE WEEK on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December from 12-4pm. Please put the date in your diaries!

It will be a fantastic day with 25 local makers, our gorgeous Santa's Grotto, craft activities, games, café, sweet shop, toy shop and a magical school choir performance. This year we are fundraising to buy blinds for the school hall – the lovely windows have been repaired but without blinds the children are dazzled by the sun during PE classes and assemblies and cannot see the screen on stage – please help us to remedy that by attending and volunteering at the fair.

You can sign up for an hour here - <https://signup.com/go/xYVVpNa> .

We also need your **CAKES AND BAKES** to sell at our café so please get baking and drop all donations on the morning of the fair. This year the PTA are also running a plant stall so if you have any indoor or outdoor **PLANTS** you would like to donate please also drop them off in the hall on the day of the fair from 9am.

The PTA will be running a **cafe at the Y3, 4, 5 & 6 Christmas show** in the top playground on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm and 6pm – grab a cup of tea, mulled apple juice and mince pie whilst you watch your little one sing.

Thank you to everyone who ordered the kids Christmas cards - you should have all received your own child's designed cards, wrapping paper, tags and mugs this week. This was a huge success and we will be running it again next year!

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December (the last day of term) we will have the **YEAR 2 CAKE SALE** in the top playground and drawing the winners of the **KIDS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**. Watch this space for details on how to register your child for their FREE ticket.

(PTA continued...)

We have an amazing team reaching out to local businesses to donate prizes for everything from days out to book bundles and cuddly toys, but **we need more prizes!** Do you have a new toy or children's book lurking in the back of a cupboard that you can donate? Or are you a local business who could offer a top prize? If so, please email [elmgrovepta0@gmail.com](mailto:elmgrovepta0@gmail.com) or drop your prize in to the school office and help us make this raffle our best yet! Thank you to everyone who is continuing to use and donate to The Pantry. We will be doing weekly shout outs for items that we need and what we have surplus, so please watch out for those

Lastly, huge thanks go to Betty and Maggie's dad Steve who kindly donated our gorgeous Christmas tree at the front of the school.

Thank you! The PTA x



## Sports Update

We took a team of Y5/6 footballers to compete in a Brighton Schools competition recently. We finished as runners-up in our initial group, and then managed one win, one draw and one loss in the second stage. The children made fantastic progress, individually and as a team, and they should feel very proud of their performances. Well done to: Sam, Douggie, Samuel, Danny, Fionn (Elder); Mattie, Barnaby, Denley (Oak); Te (Redwood); Leo (Rowan).

## 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/>

**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.**



### KS2 Winter Singalong!

Please come and join us for our winter celebration of singing and festive music. Children to wear school uniform and appropriate warm clothing including Christmas accessories if you like! The PTA will be selling hot drinks and snacks - come and join us for a sing!

**Afternoon performance: Tuesday 13th December 2pm**

Adults welcome from 1.45pm. Children can be collected straight after the performance if this is more convenient.

**Evening performance: Tuesday 13th December 6pm**

Children are to arrive back in school at 5.45pm to meet their teachers in the classrooms, please ensure that you or another responsible adult known to your child stay in the playground for the performance and then collect them afterwards from their teacher.

We estimate the performance will be about 40 minutes.

(Continued...)

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.

### Christmas Treat

Thank you so much to the PTA for funding a Christmas treat for all classes. Al Start, a local Brighton musician and friend of Elm Grove School, will be performing and getting the children involved in singing festive songs on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

Find out about Al Start at

<https://gokidmusic.com/home>



### 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.



# Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

Thank you for supporting our school attendance focus. We really appreciate the efforts families go to ensure good attendance.

Please contact the Inclusion Team if you have any attendance concerns you wish to discuss.

Please follow the link to our current attendance policy on the school website:

[AttendanceandPunctualityPolicy2022.pdf](https://www.elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk/AttendanceandPunctualityPolicy2022.pdf)  
([elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk](https://www.elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk))

Please visit our Elm Grove **School website** if you want to find out information about the school. This includes policy documentation, club details, 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](https://www.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.**

