

Number 15 – 28th April 2023

Next INSET
 Monday June 5th



Hello and welcome back to the summer term! It is an absolute pleasure to write this newsletter in place of Ms Willard, who will be set to return next week after her compassionate leave. I know she has been sorely missed.

What an excellent start we have all had to the Summer Term. Easter holidays feel a lifetime ago but it has been lovely to have the warmer sunnier weather start to inch in. The summer term is the final term of the school year and it is often a very busy one with sports tournaments, sports days and transition work starting to happen.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish a fond farewell to Alice who works on the frontline in the school office. Alice is leaving Elm Grove to start a new job at the university and her welcoming face and calm, kind manner with the children and staff will be hugely missed. We wish you every success in your new job Alice! Please be patient with the Office Team as a replacement is appointed and trained.

Mrs Kemp
 SENCo

Y6 transition to secondary

Please be assured that the Y6 transition work to their new secondary school is already underway. I have already shared information with each school regarding every pupil in Y6 and further meetings will also happen in the summer term with appropriate secondary staff to ensure children have a thorough handover of information. Further transition dates to new schools will be communicated to you once these have been shared with ourselves from each prospective school.

Plea for loose parts



With the sheds given a recent Spring Clean, we would like to continue to restock our loose-part supplies in readiness for the warmer weather.

All donations are welcome but we are especially in need of material (bedding, netting and sheets) as these help the children to make the ever popular 'playground dens'. They also make excellent sources of shade for when those long-awaited sunny days visit us.



Other items that are popular include:

- Empty cable reels
- Decking or plank offcuts
- Guttering, tubes or pipes
- Logs and tree 'cookies'
- Crates
- Ropes
- Pots, Pans and Utensils
- Dressing up clothes

Please place any donations in the grey drop off cupboard opposite the school pantry/bike shed.

Thank you

PTA NEWS 26/04/23



Thank you to everyone who helped make our **Spring Fair** such a wonderful event! You donated books, toys, cakes, prizes, jam jars and teddies, you volunteered and more than 600 of you came and spent their pennies - helping us to raise a staggering **£3554.34** towards our **new school library**. We have more fundraising planned to get the library off the ground including a sponsored read and grant applications to boost our funds. Watch this space for more news.

The next event on the horizon is our **Comedy Night at Komedia on Monday 19th June**. The night is curated by our very own Jen Brister, it will be a brilliant evening and our biggest fundraiser of the year. We have a stellar line up and every penny of every ticket sold goes to the PTA so please support this event and grab your tickets here - <https://www.komedia.co.uk/brighton/comedy/chuckles-for-charity-elm-grove-primary-school-fundraiser/> There will also be a raffle on the night to win cash and tickets for nights out in Brighton.

Are you green fingered? Handy with the DIY? Could you spare an hour or two to help the school? If so, the PTA need your help to tackle some much-needed **maintenance in the Blossom Garden**. Please message elmgrovepta0@gmail.com if you have skills to offer. We're planning on having a weekend where people can drop in to help and you can give as little or as much time as you can.

The PTA are going to **green the front of our school!** We are planning to fundraise to create planters and a 'green screen' across the entire top playground, shielding our children from the pollution of Elm Grove whilst making our playground more private. Please reach out if you have planting ideas, contractor contacts, fundraising suggestions or grant opportunities for this.

(PTA news continued...)

Lastly the PTA are very proud to announce that this week there were two great pieces of press around our fundraising work. Thanks to the PTA's community outreach work Elm Grove has reached the list of finalists for the **Acumen People Awards School of the Year**. The awards ceremony is in June, so watch this space...!



The ongoing efforts in The Pantry also featured in PTA+ Magazine – a magazine that goes to almost every PTA in the country - <https://www.pta.co.uk/running-a-pta/community-engagement/our-pta-pantry-helps-families-in-need/> - hopefully inspiring others like us to support their families through the cost of living crisis.

Thanks as always for your continued support, the PTA x

School Uniform – the school expects all pupils to wear school uniform colours every day (apart from specific non-uniform days).

Elm Grove uniform colours are **green, white and grey** – in any combination. This is also applicable for summer uniform clothing such as shorts and summer dresses.

No **black** items or any items with **logos** please, apart from the optional Elm Grove logo. Uniform should be plain and not in print-style such as camouflage.

Summer Uniform

With the summer term typically comes sunnier weather, so it is important that children are protected with sunscreen before they come to school on hot days. They may also bring a sun hat into school when needed (please make sure these are named). Please do not send children into school in sandals as these are not appropriate footwear for active children and do not protect the feet adequately whilst at school.

Please visit our uniform page on the school website for more uniform information, including our uniform library and how to order new items:

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

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.

Parent Workshops - For parents/carers of children who may experience race/culture/faith-based challenges or harm

Is your child of ethnic minority heritage? or mixed heritage?
Would you like to explore how to better talk to and support your child's understanding of identity and racial/cultural/faith-based issues?
Would you like to contribute feedback to your child's school?

Join this series of four parent workshops to:

- Explore lived experiences of challenges and harm in a supportive space
- Develop skills in supporting children to manage challenges and harm
- Discuss strategies for developing positive identity and sense of belonging in children
- Increase understanding of school systems and share feedback to your school

These workshops will be facilitated by independent advisor and facilitator Abha Aggarwal. Abha is an experienced teacher and consultant in anti-racism in schools.

We have 12 spaces available on this course. Priority will be given to those that can commit to all four sessions.

Workshops: 27th April, 4th May, 25th May
9am – 10.30am at Elm Grove School

Please see attached flyer and contact: admin@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk to register.

School Council Assemblies

This week, the School Council planned and delivered three brilliant assemblies to the rest of the school. The assemblies focused on ways in which we can all be respectful and kind. The children worked really hard, and even made some short films to show. They should be very proud of their achievements!



A special thank you to Nell, Lyra, Isla, CC, Molly, Rudi, Charlie, Betty, Estelle, Ada, Nemo, Charlotte and all the children in the school who contributed their ideas too!
And a big thank you to Mrs Mehta for her ongoing dedication to working with the school council to bring their ideas to life!

Emailing staff including teachers at school

A recent parent consultation allowed Ms Willard and I to explain to a small representative group of parents why it is important to email admin@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk instead of teachers directly with any school-based query that you may have.

When we receive an email at the 'admin' email address, this is redirected to the appropriate staff involved including alerting the Senior Leadership Team as well as the Inclusion Team (if appropriate) in an efficient streamlined manner.

It allows all appropriate staff to be informed of any enquires that they need to be aware of. Teachers are not always able to check their emails quickly or find the other staff members quickly to ask/answer questions for parents/ carers during the school day and we have no expectation for this to be done outside of working hours.

Please can all enquiries for staff be directed to the email address above in future with an 'FAO' and the class teacher's name in the subject box.

A quick reminder about PE from Mr Waring:



Please remember that on a PE day all children should come to school wearing suitable PE kit in school colours (ie green, white or grey). It is essential that all children have trainers or plimsolls on any day when they have outdoor PE. They also need trainers or plimsolls for daily runs, which they do on every non-PE day.

Our very own Moomins are taking shape and getting ready to take part in the Children's Parade on Sunday May 7th. Please come along to cheer us on on the day!



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Next Friday 5th May is the Year 1 Cake Sale!



Year 1's please get buying, baking and volunteering to help raise money towards the Paradise Park trip!

Every penny we raise reduces the costs for parents and carers for this trip so please buy cakes and support every family.

The cake sale takes place on the top playground afterschool. Each cake is 50p each. Many Thanks – the PTA x

DIARY DATES

Date	Event
Monday 1 st May	May Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 2 nd May	Industrial Strike Action Planned
Friday 5 th May	Year 1 Cake Sale PTA
Sunday 7 th May	Children's Parade
Monday 8 th May	Kings Coronation Bank Holiday
Tues 9 th – Fri 12 th May	Y6 SATs
Friday 26 th May	End of half term/non-uniform day PTA Y4 cake sale
Monday 5 th June	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 6 th June	Children return to school
Monday 3 rd July	KS2 sports day – Withdean Stadium
Tuesday 4 th July	Y1 sports day
Wednesday 5 th July	Reception sports day
Friday 7 th July	Y2 sports day
Friday 7 th July	Y6 Secondary transition day
Monday 10 th July	Y5 adventure trip
Friday 14 th July	Annual reports home
Monday 17 th July	'Meet my new teacher' - pupils
Tuesday 18 th July	Open Evening
Thursday 20 th July	End of term/non-uniform day PTA Year Y1 & Reception cake sale



GOLDEN BOOK MERITS



Apple	Immy, Ety, Frankie, Bea, Jack, Red
Cherry	Essie Mae, Arlo, Isla, Zyon, Leo, Alyssia
Beech	Keir, Emily, Ed, Aggie, Leah, Ariella
Birch	Rudy, Woody, Nate, Rhion, Ellis, Annie
Baobab	Isaac, Joshua B, Truman, Oscar, Jago, Ava-Rose
Bonsai	Rosie M, Ayeza, Hamza, Rodayna, Eli, Rosie S
Holly	Sam W, Levi, Sam C, Luca
Horse Chestnut	Arthur, Gabriel, Stanley, Tyler, Alice, Samuel
Cedar	
Cypress	Jimmy, Reuben O, Arlo
Redwood	Erin, Kasper J, Myla, Té, Cheyenne, Ben
Rowan	Oisin, Alex McC, Emily, Jaidah, Fitz
Elder	Maisie, Guney, Albie, Anya, Danny
Oak	Evie, Billy, Remy, Mattie, Stanley, George

Homework

Homework - please look out for homework grid on:

Friday 28th April

Friday 12th May

Homework grids are now accessible again via 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.

NEWSLETTER - Large print copies are available at the office

Lorise Crisland

Head teacher

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