



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 4 – 20th October 2023

Next INSET
Tuesday 2nd January



Harvest Festival - Thank you so much for supporting our Harvest Festival so generously. The produce donated will all be used to stock the schools Pantry over the coming months and will really make a difference to our school community.

Thank you to those family members who were able to attend the assembly– the children really enjoyed sharing their songs with you.

Have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 30th October.

Welcome – Mr Phil Dancer joined Elm Grove this week as our new Site Manager. Mr Dancer has 'hit the ground' running and has already undertaken lots of maintenance tasks across the school.

Christmas cards - Forms have been sent home for you to be able to get your child's artwork turned into beautiful Christmas cards and help the school at the same time!

This year as well as cards there are calendars, gift labels, mugs or tea towels available to buy.

You will have the forms over half term, so your child can create their art.

You will need to return your child's artwork and the completed form to school by Tuesday 31st October (either to their class teacher or the office). No late orders can be made so please get the forms in on time.

£1 from the sale of each product will go straight back to the school PTA!

Tips for creating the artwork for printing were sent on school ping.



Homework – please look out for homework grids on:

Friday 03.11.23

Friday 17.11.23

Friday 01.12.23

[Homework – 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.

PTA News - A big thank you from all of the PTA for what can only be described as an extraordinary start to the year.

Our green wall crowd funder raised an incredible £16,808.05, which far exceeds what we'd ever hoped for. This money will be invested in the school straight away, with the brick planters being built over half term. The hedgerow is being planted in early Spring, and before then we are going to put up willow fence screens across the railings of the top playground for instant privacy and as a barrier to the pollution whilst we wait for the plants to grow.

The extra money raised from our crowd funder will go towards installing a watering system to ensure our green wall thrives for years to come, with the rest of the funds being put into providing a wildlife area in the Blossom Garden.

The green wall fundraising is in addition to the £36,400 that the PTA raised last year through our fairs, cake sales, comedy night, sponsored read and grant applications to name but a few.

The government is chronically underfunding schools, but together we are making a real meaningful difference to Elm Grove. This term we have already funded the school's subscription to Nessy – the literacy support software for dyslexia (www.nessy.com) and bought 40 sets of headphones for SEND children in y3-y6 to access specialist programmes to support their literacy skills. In addition, this week we ordered 600 beautiful new books for our new library, we continue to stock the Pantry weekly with produce and personal hygiene items, and supply the Nest with snacks for KS2 pupils who do not have a morning snack.

In order to keep supporting the school, with more classroom renovations planned for summer 2024 we have lots of events lined up between now and Christmas. Please carve a pumpkin for our Halloween pumpkin competition on Tuesday 31st October (prizes for the winners in every year group), and volunteer for one of our biggest fundraisers of the year the Winter Fair and Makers Market on Saturday 2nd December. We're looking for volunteers to help lead on stalls for the bric-a-brac, books and face paints, so please reach out if you'd like to get involved!

secretary@elmgrovepta.com

Please note - the planned Y4 cake sale has been postponed until 31st October due to the weather forecast. You will be able to buy cakes to help Year 4 fundraise for their next school

**ELM GROVE PTA
AUTUMN/WINTER 2023**

EVENTS CALENDAR

- FRI 20 OCT - YEAR 4 CAKE SALE
- TUES 31 OCTOBER - PUMPKIN COMPETITION
- 27 NOV - 1 DEC - XMAS FAIR COLLECTIONS
- SAT 2 DEC - CHRISTMAS FAIR
- MON 11 DEC - KIDS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

**ELM GROVE PTA
PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION**

TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER, 3.20PM

£1

PLEASE DROP OFF BEFORE SCHOOL
IN THE TOP PLAYGROUND

MRS WILLARD WILL BE PICKING A
WINNING PUMPKIN FROM EACH YEAR.
EACH WINNER GETS A PRIZE!

ELM GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS FAIR & MAKERS MARKET

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2023
11.30AM - 3PM

LOCAL MAKERS STALLS | GAMES | TOYS
SANTA'S GROTTTO | CRAFT | BOOKS
FACE PAINTS | CAFE | RAFFLE

VOLUNTARY £1 ENTRY, UNDER 4'S FREE

ELM GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL, ELM GROVE BN2 3ES

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Dear Parents/carers,

Thank you for your ongoing support with OPAL play. The start of the year has been very exciting: nominating new OPAL helpers and exploring all the new parts you have brought in.

The drop off shed of spare parts (opposite the pantry) always has plenty in it and you are great at bring in a variety of different things.

As winter approaches, we are thinking about appropriate 'loose parts' for children to enjoy. With this in mind, please do not bring in any more cloth/sheets/material as this just gets soggy and smelly in the winter months.

Please do bring in:

guttering / pipes / metal pots and pans / big spoons and ladles/ suitcases / planks of wood (if sanded) / cones / tarps / small tyres (bike...) / logs / shells / pine cones.



Below are a few photos of our OPAL helpers and some fun on the top playground.

If you have any questions about this or any other OPAL related questions please come and ask either Erin Souttar, Louise Willard or Benny de Castilho.



Some of our Opal helpers



Just some of the ways the children have been using the loose parts!

<https://www.internetmatters.org/homepage/>

The internetmatters.org website offers a wealth of practical tips, from age-specific online safety checklists to comprehensive guides on setting parental controls. Discover the knowledge and tools you'll need to help your children safely and confidently explore the digital world

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.



Parents Evening Information -

The autumn term parents evening appointments will be taking place on Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th of November. The parents evening appointments will run from 3.40pm to 6.10pm with appointments lasting 10minutes.

Appointments are now available to book via SchoolPing. If you cannot access SchoolPing you can book an appointment via email or phone call to the school office:01273 708004 after October 19th.

(Please note –Horse Chestnut class parents evenings will be on Friday 3rd & Tues 7th November)

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DIARY DATES

Date	Event
Friday 20 th October	Last day of half term
Monday 30 th October	Pupils return to school
Tuesday 31 st October	Pumpkin Carving Competition/Y4 Cake Sale
Wednesday 1 st Nov	Prospective parent tour
Friday 3 rd Nov	Horse Chestnut alternative Parents Eve
Monday 6 th November	Prospective parent tour
Tuesday 7 th November	Parents Eve
Thursday 9 th Nov	Parents Eve (not Horse Chestnut class)
Wednesday 15 th Nov	Individual photos
Thursday 16 th Nov	Prospective parent tour x2
Friday 24 th November	Flu vaccination – Reception to Year 6
Saturday 2 nd December	PTA makers Markey
Monday 4 th December	KS2 Cast A xmas performance – St Martins Church
Tuesday 5 th December	KS2 Cast B xmas performance – St Martins Church
Wednesday 6 th December	One Voice choir
Monday 11 th Dec	KS1 xmas performance PTA Children's Raffle draw
Tuesday 12 th Dec	AI Start Xmas entertainment – all year groups (PTA funded)
Wednesday 13 th Dec	Xmas Dinner
Thursday 14 th December	KS1 xmas performance
Friday 15 th Dec	Last day of term/PTA Cake sale
Weds 3 rd January	Children return to school

NEWSLETTER - Large print copies are available at the office

Louise Willard

Head teacher



GOLDEN BOOK MERITS



Beech	Albie, Megan, Jesse, Sophie, Lev, Caspian
Birch	Aslan, Beatrice, Romy, Belle, Esmail, Gethin
Baobab	Eli, Nemo, Summer, Esther, Leah, Joshua
Bonsai	Leo, Pearl, Bea, Nate, Runa, Arlo
Holly	Maisey, Honey, Amelie, Dotti, Rosie M, Rodayna
Horse Chestnut	Joshua T, Raven, Ava-Rose, Ivy, Jago, Oscar F
Cedar	Kit, Jake, Fred, Arthur, Oscar, Louis
Cypress	Sonnie R, Phoebe, Luca, Victoire, James I, Isla C
Redwood	Fred, Jimmy, Sienna, Eli, Elina, Lewis
Rowan	Livvy, Bea, Theo, Molly, Marcus, Cicely
Oak	Rowan, Emily, Felix, Elijah, Alex D, Rolando
Elder	Sam, Lola, Isla, Isaac, Erin, Cheyenne

Does your child struggle to go to



Need support with your child or want to meet other parents in the same situation?



On Monday 30th October '23

we are online to support you

12pm – 1.30pm

Emotionally Based School Avoidance

For joining details please contact

Sharyn.brazier@brighton-hove.gov.uk OR

jo.roeg@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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