



Newsletter

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Number 11 – 23rd February 2024

Next INSET
Monday 3rd June

Contents:

- Book week info
- Growing Anti-Racist Schools
- Staffing update
- 2024-25 term dates & BHISS literacy team open evening flyer attached
- OCOW energy saving photo project
- Plea for woodchips
- Next parent consultation meeting date

Book Week 2024



We will be celebrating World Book Day with our traditional dressing up assembly on **Friday 8th March 2023**.

Children are invited to come to school dressed up as their favourite book character. There will be a small prize for the most inventive costume in each year group. If children do not want to / are not able to dress up, they can come in their pyjamas with a copy of / picture of their favourite book.

Waterstones will be holding a book fair in the **afternoon of Friday 8th March**. Children are invited to spend the £1.00 / £1.50 book vouchers (that we have in school) on a choice of different books.

The PTA are also kindly arranging a **“Book Bonanza”** on the afternoon of **Wednesday 6th March**. All children will have the opportunity to visit a book fair in the hall and choose a pre-owned book from the fantastic selection donated by parents.

Growing Anti-Racist Schools - This half term, all children will be taking part in a series of PSHE lessons based on two topics – “Good To be Me” and “Growing an Anti-Racist School.” These lessons have recently been revised and rewritten by a group of Anti-Racist lead teachers, employed by the Brighton and Hove City council, along with the PSHE team and are informed by the newly developed Brighton and Hove City Council’s Primary Racial Literacy Curriculum Framework. This work is part of the Council’s Anti-Racist Strategy, whose vision is to create a community of anti-racist education settings where:

- the complexities of our diverse interwoven histories are acknowledged,
- where every child can learn and thrive,
- where everyone feels safe and equal
- where we all have a strong sense of identity and belonging.

The framework is structured around five key themes:

1. Physical features (skin colour, hair texture and other physical characteristics)
2. Identity, community, culture, ethnic heritage & religion
3. Stereotypes, stereotyping and assumptions
4. Prejudice and discrimination
5. Historical context and structural issues.

Spring is in the air!

Eco Club are ready to make our school more colourful.

Last year we were given some gift vouchers from Dobbie’s Garden Centre and Eco Club have spent some of the money on some colourful flowers to brighten up our school grounds.

Look out for them over the next few days.



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Staffing update –

We thank Mrs Juliet Stanton and send her all best wishes as she leaves Elm Grove on March 8th due to moving house out of Brighton, close to her granddaughter. Mrs Stanton has worked at Elm Grove for 17 years and has supported numerous children during this time. There is a collection in the school office if anyone wishes to contribute.

As a result, Ms Karen Travis will be returning to Elm Grove as Y2 Bonsai class teaching assistant. We will very much look forward to Ms Travis being part of the team again.

Thanks also to Molly Crossthwaite for her contribution to the school and we wish her good luck in the future.

Congratulations to Ms Hannah Collacott who is expecting her second child in June. Information about Ms Collocott's maternity replacement in the office will follow shortly.

Finally, interviews for Elm Grove's new headteacher are taking place on March 7th and 8th. Governors will update the school community of the outcome as soon as they are able.

Sports update -

Our Y3 children recently qualified for the city-wide multi-skills finals at BHASVIC. The children performed magnificently and really couldn't have tried any harder! They eventually finished in 2nd place and they should all feel really proud of themselves. Well done to: Ruby M, Estelle, Jojo, Raven, Echo, Isaac, Jago, Robin, Arthur.



Safeguarding - Online safety for families

[NSPCC has published a new page](#) bringing together online safety information and guidance for parents and carers on topics from prevention to reporting. Research shows 89% of children in the UK play video games, but with online harm increasing, [NSPCC have launched the Game Safe Festival](#) in February. There's a safer gaming workshop for carers too, [book your free tickets](#)

Sweets in school – please ensure KS2 children bring a healthy snack for their mid-morning break. We ask that neither sweets nor chewing gum are brought into school.



Wood chips needed –

The school is seeking donations of wood chips for a playground project. Please contact our Site Manager, Phil Dancer, if you are an arborist or possibly know someone who could help.

philpdancer@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Thank you

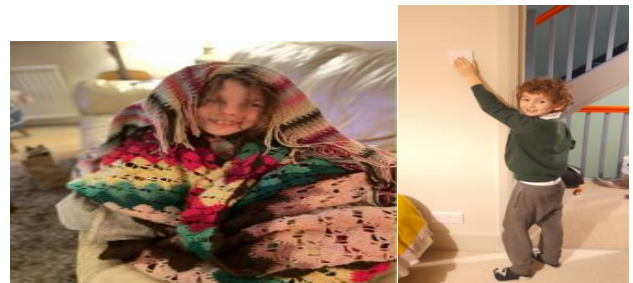


Our City Our World – ‘Get Caught Saving Energy’

This term we have been talking about fossil fuels and their impact on our environment. We've also talked about renewable energy and ways to save energy at home and school.

We've tasked the children to have their photo taken saving energy at home – please send any photos to the school office (admin@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk - attention Mrs Hutchinson). The photos will be used to create a school energy saving display.

Photos could be of children turning off lights, cycling or scooting to school, keeping warm under a blanket



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THE BIG CHOMP!

The Big Chomp is all about making the act of eating veg fun.

Fun lies at the heart of Eat Them to Defeat Them – for children fun is the key determinant of food choice and enjoyment.

Eat Them to Defeat Them is a game, a story, a joke. The children know the veg are not really evil or taking over the world. What's more, they know it's a ruse to get them to eat vegetables...but it's **funny**, **unexpected** and so they go with it and give the veg a go, then another go and another and before we're done it's just become normal.

An essential part of the campaign's success is putting children and their parents, carers and other influencing adults on the same side. All too often vegetables have become a currency in a battle of wills between child and carer. We have to break that cycle.

That's where The Big Chomp comes in. The Big Chomp is a challenge to eat veg in the most fun and silly way. Maybe it's chomping like a rapid rabbit like nibbling on stick of celery or carrot, hoovering up a row of peas, popping a tomato inside your mouth or full-on face-planting your gnashers into a head of broccoli.

More information can be found on the Eat Them to Defeat Them website: [The Big Chomp - Eat Them To Defeat Them](#)



Elm Grove has registered for pupils to participate in the Royal Academy Summer Show. You may want to enter one of your child's pieces of art.

[Young Artists' Summer Show | Royal Academy](#)

The Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show is a wonderful opportunity for UK-based artists and schools to engage creatively in the making and sharing of a piece of artwork that truly expresses their own voice. There is no theme and artists aged 4-19 can submit a wide range of works which may include drawing, painting, printing, photography, sculpture, textile, fashion, animation, video, or surprise us!

- The deadline to submit artwork is 27 March 2024 at 5pm. You can edit submissions until this deadline
- You can submit one artwork per student
- For each submission you'll need one image of the artwork plus details including a title, medium and a short description
- You can save the submission as a draft and submit it at a later date if you need more time
- Questions? See our [FAQs](#).

Send any artwork to:
louisewillard@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Homework – Please look out for homework grids on:

Friday 1st March
Friday 15th March

The homework grids will be uploaded onto the homework page of the school website: [Homework –](#)

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.

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Parent consultation - Friday 22nd March at 10am.

The topic of discussion will be the current National school funding crisis and potential creative ideas/solutions parents and carers may have to support Elm Grove.

Please email Louise Willard if you are interested in attending (louisewillard@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk).

Community events and updates –

Art workshops - There are several upcoming art workshops at the Booth Museum and Hove Museum:

<https://brightonmuseums.org.uk/event/art%20club-in-booth-museum-of-natural-history/> and <https://brightonmuseums.org.uk/event/art-club-in-hove%20museum-of-creativity/>

Bus fares - The £2 Fare has been extended until June 2024. Brighton & Hove Buses will be offering cheaper fares to residents, capped at £2 on all single fare bus journeys

DIARY DATES

Date	Event
Tuesday 27 th February	Parents Evening
Wednesday 28 th February	Parents Evening
Wednesday 6 th March	Book Bonanza
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Friday 8 th March	Book Day dressing up day & Waterstones visit
Friday 15 th March	PTA Movie Night
Friday 22 nd March	Parent consultation (school budgets)
Friday 22 nd March	Let's Dance performance
Saturday 23 rd & Sunday 24 th March	Children's Parade weekend workshops
w/b Monday 25 th March	Y6 residential (3 days)
Tuesday 26 th March	Redwood parents ukulele performance invite Year 5 parents invited in to celebrate Year 5's VE day
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of term PTA cake sale
Monday 15 th April	Children return to school
Saturday 27 th April	PTA Spring Fair
Saturday 4 th May	Children's Parade

Attendance parent/carers sessions -

Please see below for details of parent drop-in sessions this term, designed to offer a space for parents/carers to share any concerns they may have about their child's attendance. These sessions will be run by an Attendance Officer and Family Support Worker and are open to all.

Tuesday 27th February, 10.00 – 15.00 at Moulescoomb Family Hub, Hodshrove Lane, BN2 4SE

Tuesday 12th March, 13.00 -16.00 at North Portslade Children's Centre, The Rise, Portslade, BN41 2PY

Tuesday 19th March, 10.00 – 15.00 at Roundabout Children's Centre, Whitehawk Road, BN2 5FL



GOLDEN BOOK MERITS

Apple	Aiden, Juno, Tom
Cherry	Emir, Ira, Leif
Beech	Jack, Lola, Arlo, Isharni, Agnes, John
Birch	Maia, Alyssea, Gethin, Max, Alex, Romy
Baobab	Rowan, Hector, Estella, Eleanor, Keir, Rusty
Bonsai	Aniyah, Nate, Esme, Effie C, Agnes C, Henry
Holly	Whole class, Leo, Maria
Horse Chestnut	Marley, Robyn, Oscar, Ava-Rose, Ibuki
Cedar	Evelyn, Oscar, Samuel, Seb, Gabriel, Willow
Cypress	Victoire, Leo, Dulcie, Nina, James I, Ornette
Redwood	Whole class, Teddy, Mia, Bobby
Rowan	Whole class, Marcus, Hannah, Ollie
Elder	Benita, Owen, Neve, Samuel, Erin, Marcy
Oak	Cleo, Sydney, Rosie, Fitz, Beau, Scarlett

NEWSLETTER - Large print copies are available at the office

Head teacher

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