



Newsletter

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Next INSET
Monday 3rd June

Message from Chris Adams, Co-Chair of Governors, re the recruitment of Elm Grove's next headteacher:

It's with great pleasure that the Governing Board is pleased to announce that our recruitment for a new Head Teacher for Elm Grove is complete. It's been a busy few weeks with the interviews and ensuring that everything was in order. We had a really good set of applications in and the process was robust and rigorous including the candidate running an assembly on International Women's day for different groups of children, as well as being questioned by a panel of staff and children. At the end of day one the successful candidates were invited back to present to the Governing Board on how their first year at Elm Grove would look and then had an hour of questions from the panel.

It is exciting for us to announce that we've now been able to appoint **Mr Ben Massey** as the new Head of the school and he will be starting from September. We were really impressed with his passion for the school which shone through from day one, and how quickly he built up relationships with the children and staff. Mr Massey is currently the Head of School at Hove Primary and brings with him a wealth of experience that will support the staff and continue to build on the vision of the school in the years to come.

We would like to thank the staff and children for their support and patience through this process. During the interview days we took over the school, and the whole community was involved to make the process a success. We could not have done this without everyone's participation and flexibility.



Contents:

- Headteacher recruitment update
- Easter/Eid celebration invite
- Sports update (netball, hockey and football)
- HAF holiday information (see flyers attached)
- PTA news and events/readathon info attached
- Measles info

Celebration Tea!



Place: Top playground, Elm Grove

Date: 19th April Time: 3.30 – 4pm

To celebrate: The festivals of **Eid** and **Easter**

If you can, bring a snack to share (no nuts please!)

We would like to invite you to our '**Celebration tea**' on Friday 19th April from 3.30 - 4pm in the top playground. We'll have hot drinks and some snacks to celebrate the festivals of Easter and Eid which both take place at this time of year! It would be great if you could bring a small snack to share, anything is welcome as long as it doesn't contain nuts. (Please note children need to be accompanied by an adult).

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 - Huge thanks to everyone who signed up for our Movie Night after school today. This is our first time running this event and there's been a huge interest and we have sold out on both nights. We will look to hopefully run more of these in the future. A reminder that in consultation with the SENDCo, it has been arranged that if your child is attending the movie night and has a formal ASC diagnosis and finds crowded spaces tricky, please enter through the stairs from the top entrance.

Thank you also to the volunteers who have signed up for our Reception Playground Revamp tomorrow Saturday 23rd March 10am-4pm. If you would like to join and haven't signed up yet please do so here <https://signup.com/go/hYKTbVD> Please also bring brushes and outdoor paint donations along with you if you have any spare.

The Pantry are looking for more volunteers to tidy and top up shelves and uniform on Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you can spare 20 mins at any point between 8am-5pm on these days each week please email secretary@elmgrovepta.com.

Thanks to everyone who has already started the Ready Steady Read – please encourage your kids to get reading and reach out to friends and family to sponsor them here - [Ready Steady Read 2024 | Localgiving](#) There are book token prizes for our biggest readers and fundraisers.

Watch out next week for details of how to buy your tickets to our Comedy Night at Komedia on Monday 17th June. The line up is yet again incredible!

The Spring Fair is around the corner on Saturday 27th April and we need volunteers to lead on some of our most popular stalls. Are you a dab hand at organising books, great at naming teddy bears or exceptional at designing easter trails? If so please email secretary@elmgrovepta.com. There are roles that can be done before the event, from home, at school and at the event itself. Please share your skills and your time and help us make the Spring Fair possible. We're also still accepting applications from children in Y4-Y6 to host their own 'Mini Makers' stall at the fair. Please email secretary@elmgrovepta.com to express your child's interest and find out more.

Lastly don't forget the Y1 Cake Sale next Thursday, the last day of term. Please help Y1 raise money for their school trip to Paradise Park. If your child has a formal ASC diagnosis and finds crowded spaces tricky, their parents/carers can buy a cake on their behalf from 3.10. Families with access and mobility issues can also attend the cake sale early to avoid the crowds.



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Around the World through Books display -

Thank you to everyone who has submitted a book for our 'Around the World through Books' challenge. So far, we have got 20 different countries and have read books set in every continent!

Neurodiversity Celebration Week in 2024 runs between 18th to the 24th of March! It's a great time to learn more and celebrate the diverse strengths that come with neurodiversity.



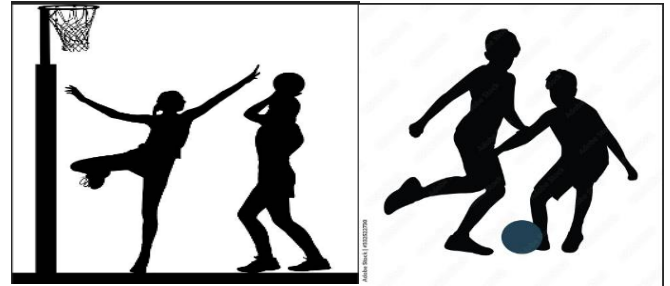
Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a global initiative that challenges stereotypes and misunderstandings surrounding neurological differences. Its mission is to reshape perceptions and support for neurodivergent individuals by providing schools, universities, and organisations with the opportunity to recognise the many talents and advantages of being neurodivergent.

Find out more here:

[Neurodiversity Celebration Week \(neurodiversityweek.com\)](https://neurodiversityweek.com)

Sports update

Our **netballers** played superbly in a recent tournament and made incredible progress throughout. Having lost the first game 5-0, we then won 3 and drew 1 of our remaining 4 games, scoring 14 goals and conceding just 3. We finished in 2nd place, and the players should feel very proud of their effort, their teamwork and the standard of their play. Very well done to: Leo, Poppy, Rowan, Rosie, Oisín (Oak); Isla (Elder); Samyar, Sylvie (Rowan)



Our **footballers** played against St Bernadettes in the 7-a-side Geerts Shield. Whilst we lost the match 5-1, we actually played significantly better than in the previous round when we won 4-2! Well done to: Isaac, Te, Kas, Harrison (Elder); Oisín, Arthur (Oak); Jimmy, Eddie (Redwood).

Well done to the following children who represented the school superbly in a recent **hockey** festival: Elka, Charlie (Elder); Lola, Toby, Cheyenne (Oak); Scarlett, Samyar, Cicely (Rowan); Fred (Redwood).



There is a real momentum gathering for the smartphone free childhood campaign. Here's a link in case it is of interest:

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

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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It's not too late! **The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF)** programme is FREE for families who have children receiving benefits-related free school meals (Reception to Year 11),

Elm Grove Out of School Club (EGOOSC) is offering HAF places. For more information please email: manager@elmgroveoutofschool.club
EGOOSC is also running its usual holiday club (see flyer attached)

There are also other events going on across the city. There's everything from sports, drama, music, coding, playschemes, and more.

Here are just a few of the providers with good availability:

Premier Education (5 to 12 year olds) - multi-sports in Mile Oak

Brighton Table Tennis Club (6 to 16 year olds) - carousel of various sports providers in Moulsecoomb

Trust for Developing Communities (11 to 16 year olds) - creative and active sessions available at [Hollingbury](#), [Moulsecoomb](#), [Whitehawk](#) and [Woodingdean](#)

Stay and Play (4 to 11 year olds) - Ofsted registered childcare at Aldrington Primary School

SportsCool Brighton (4 to 11 year olds) - multi-sports at Longhill Sports Centre

B Starz Academy (6 to 13 year olds) - drama and movement at BHASVIC

Pioneer Childcare (4 to 11 year olds) - Ofsted registered childcare at three sites across Brighton & Hove

This link contains all HAF promotional assets, including providers' individual flyers: <https://beem.org.uk/HAF>

Eligible participants can book up to 4 HAF sessions over Easter HAF 2024, with one session available per day.

To see everything available and to book, visit: <https://eequ.org/brightonhovehaf>

To learn more visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/haf



Support Brighton Festival's Free Events - The Arts for Impact National Campaign
As you know, young people across the city are taking part in Children's Parade this year. Same Sky's Children's Parade is a vital and longstanding part of Brighton Festival's free events and engages young people across the city in arts and creativity.

This year, the Brighton Festival has been selected to participate in the Big Give's 'Arts for Impact' national match funding campaign to raise funds for free events in the Brighton Festival programme – events like the Children's Parade.

Arts events are important for well-being and the community, yet due to the ongoing cost-of-living-crisis, more and more members of our community are finding themselves unable to spare the costs of participation. We know our Free events are vital, but we need your help: From midday Tuesday 19th March to midday Tuesday 26th March, every pound you donate will be doubled, up to our campaign target of £20,000.

You can find out more and support us on our campaign page: [Support Brighton Festival's Free Events \(biggive.org\)](https://biggive.org)



Are you or anyone you know interested in letting our school hall on a regular basis?

We have hall space free from 4.30 on Mondays, and Fridays - any interested party can contact Sean Copping (School Business Manager): seancopping@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk

There will be a **PTA non-uniform day** (own clothes, not dress-up) on Friday 19th April - requesting donations of either chocolate or a raffle prize for the Spring Fair (if you are able to), which is being held the following Saturday 27th April.
Thank-you



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Measles update from the Public Health team

- So far, we have not seen any measles cases in Brighton and Hove – however, the number of measles cases continue to rise around the country and abroad, mainly in children who have not had the MMR vaccine. With the Easter holidays fast approaching and possible travel being planned we are reminding everyone to be measles aware and ensure your children are vaccinated with the MMR.

Measles is a highly infectious disease which can lead to serious illness.

The measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine provides excellent protection against measles, and it is free on the NHS.

Children are offered the first dose of the MMR vaccine at one year and the second dose at 3 years 4 months, but they can be given with as little as a one-month gap between doses, depending on age.

What should you do? To see if your child is up to date with their MMR vaccine, check their red book, or contact your GP practice. If anyone has missed one or both doses of the MMR vaccine, contact your GP practice to book an appointment. It's never too late to catch up on your MMR vaccination.

[Find out more about MMR vaccinations on the NHS website.](#)

Measles signs and symptoms

Measles usually starts with cold-like symptoms, followed by a rash a few days later. Some people may also get small spots in their mouth.

The first symptoms of measles include:

- a high temperature
- a runny or blocked nose
- sneezing
- a cough
- red, sore, watery eyes
- Small white spots may appear inside the cheeks and on the back of the lips a few days later. These spots usually last a few days.
- A rash usually appears a few days after the cold-like symptoms - The rash looks brown or red on white skin. It may be harder to see on brown and black skin.

[More information about measles, symptoms and actions you can take are on this 0-18 NHS website.](#)



GOLDEN BOOK MERITS

Apple	Biba, Jax, Sonny, Alex, Theo, Romy
Cherry	Elijah, Bjorn, Elder, Connie, Oscar, Angus
Beech	Harper, Leon, Benji, Anya, Tiarnee, Lizzie
Birch	Otto, Zyon, Essie-Mae, Sia, Maia, Frankie
Baobab	Iris, Summer, Naly, Hettie, Isla, Jackson
Bonsai	Whole Class, Finlay, Harper, Jake
Holly	Zuzia, Jojo, Whole Class,
Horse Chestnut	Truman, Ursula, Marley, River, Eddie, Oscar
Cedar	Reuben, Ripley, Coen, Freddie K, Arthur, Stanley
Cypress	Levi, Momo, Sam C, Casper, Sonny, Ella
Redwood	Maja, Fred, Amelia, Whole Class
Rowan	Richard, Manaf, Tristan, Audrey, Harrison, Sylvie
Elder	Toby, Cheyenne, Myla, Te, Kasper, Danielle
Oak	CC, Elijah, Rowan, Willow, Edie, Rosie

DIARY DATES

Date	Event
Friday 22 nd March	PTA Movie night
Saturday 23 rd & Sunday 24 th March	Reception playground volunteer day Children's Parade weekend workshops (11-3)
w/b Monday 25 th March	Y6 residential (3 days)
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of term/own clothes day PTA Y1 cake sale
Monday 15 th April	Children return to school
Friday 19 th April	PTA own clothes day for Spring Fair (+ donation) Easter/Eid celebration
Saturday 27 th April	PTA Spring Fair
Saturday 4 th May	Children's Parade
Monday 6 th May	Bank holiday – school closed
Friday 24 th May	End of half term
Monday 3 rd June	INSET – school closed to children
Tuesday 4 th June	Children return to school
Monday 17 th June	PTA Komedia comedy night
Friday 5 th July	Secondary school transition day (Y6)
Monday 22 nd July	Last day of term for children

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