



Newsletter

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Next INSET
Tuesday 23rd July



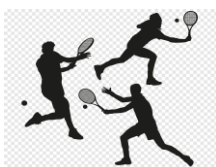
June 17th - 23rd is **Refugee Week**. We will be marking this week by sharing inspiring stories and poems and then creating images inspired by our discussions on what home means to us, what we would choose to remind us of home and also how we can make people feel at home at Elm Grove.

It would be lovely to have some parent and carer ideas on this too; this could be a photo, a symbol or a quote - anything that, for you, sums up the idea of Home. If you are happy to have it as part of our display (in school or on the website), please do email it FAO Ms Smith to admin@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk.

On Friday 21st June after school, we will display some of the images we have created during the week after school in our main hall - please do pop in to have a look!

<https://refugeeweek.org.uk/>

Racket Festival - Well done to the following children in Y3/4 who represented the school in a racket festival (table-tennis, tennis and squash) at Withdean Sports Centre recently:
Samuel, Alice, Esme (Cedar); Casper, James O, Isla C (Cypress); Eddie, Ava-Rose, Jackson (Horse Chestnut); Ada, Sathira, Zuzia (Holly)



Opportunity to become a co-opted governor at Elm Grove School –

At Elm Grove we have a strong and committed team of governors who provide effective support and challenge to the headteacher and the leadership team. Some long-serving governors will be stepping down at the end of the year and we are looking to appoint three co-opted governors who will challenge and support the new head teacher in his first year.

Our governors have a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest in wanting the best possible education for the children in our school and professional experience for the staff. We would be delighted to hear from anyone who:-

- Has experience of financial management or human resources but this is not essential
- Is interested in children's education and the performance of the school
- Has spare time and the energy for the role
- Is able to work well as part of a team
- Has an enquiring mind and the confidence to ask questions and debate issues that affect the school

There are 5 full governing board meetings per year and two committees holding 3/4 meetings each per year. There are some very experienced governors on the board who would support new governors alongside the local authority's governor induction training.

If you are interested, please do ask some of the current governors (listed on the school website) about the role and/or email the clerk to the governors (AnnaJohnson@elmgrove.brighton-hove.sch.uk) for an application form.

Any appointments will be confirmed in July.

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 - If you haven't already, grab yourself one of the last few tickets to our returning and fabulous **Chuckles for Charity comedy night at Komedia**. Hosted by Jen Brister and featuring a stellar line up of Kerry Godlamin, James Ellis, Ian Stone and Maisie Adam. Tickets can be bought directly from Komedia -

<https://www.komedia.co.uk/brighton/comedy/chuckles-for-charity-elm-grove-primary-school-fundraiser-2/>

We were very excited to put up the **bird boxes** and our first lot of **plaques** to those who generously donated to our green wall last year. There are more plaques to go up in the next few weeks so keep your eyes peeled, and fingers crossed the birds like their new homes.

The PTA are working with the school to organise **Louise Willard's Leaving Picnic on Friday 12th July in the Blossom Garden from 2pm**. This is an opportunity to say a huge thank you to Louise for everything she's done, along with a few surprises we have for her up our sleeves too. We would love to invite every parent and carer to come to the picnic where they will be able to share food and drink with everyone in celebration of Louise's incredible work at Elm Grove. We ask that everyone bring a nut free dish to share, with labelled ingredients for anything you bring/make. All of the children will be attending too. There will be more information to follow nearer the event.

This week you will have received details of how to **sign up to the ClassList app** from your WhatsApp rep. the PTA have transitioned to this app for all volunteer sign ups and for future kids events like discos and movie nights. If you haven't already please click the link below and join our Classlist. **This link will expire in 7 days (Thursday 20th June)!**

<https://classlist.page.link/fS4sLq2mH8MZuSRLA>

Please create a profile, adding your child(ren) to their current class and then take a look at our **Blossom Garden sign up** that can be found on the 'What's On' tab. If you can spare any time in that first week of summer holidays (23rd-26th July) then please sign up. **Note that our wonderful After School Club are providing FREE childcare for those volunteering. Please select a free childcare place using the ticket function.** Did you know some companies will offer volunteering paid days? It's worth checking with your employer. Win win! If you have any questions get in touch through your Rep or email

volunteerco@elmgrovepta.com

The PTA held our AGM this week where we were thrilled to celebrate raising an incredible £51,741.71 in the last financial year! This is a monumental and record-breaking amount for the PTA. Thanks must go to every single person in the school who helped us to do this, whether in the PTA or at our events. This money has funded the green wall, new library, Pantry, classroom refurbishment, SEND & Nest support, tablets in every classroom, classroom furniture, PE equipment, musical instruments, school trips, Y6 leavers events, the Children's Parade and playground repairs and revamps and more. The work that the PTA does improves and enriches our children's lives at Elm Grove immeasurably, please support all we do to enable us to continue to build on this.

After 3 years Becs Kent announced her plans to step down from her role as PTA Chair at the end of this term. If you are interested in being the chair, co-chairing with someone, or getting involved with any other aspects of the PTA please email Chloe on secretary@elmgrovepta.com. Leading a charity is not only an incredibly rewarding experience, but it's fantastic on your CV; it's an opportunity to gain incredible skills that can be taken in other workplaces, whilst also working with a truly lovely bunch of people.

Lastly we want to say a **huge thank you and good luck** to Y6 parents and core PTA committee members Karen Saunders and Katherine Yeoman. Both Karen and Katherine have been involved in the PTA for 6+ years and they've had a huge impact on all we've done. We wish them so much luck on their journeys as secondary school parents as they leave Elm Grove.

Thanks so much and we look forward to seeing you at Komedia on Monday ☐

Becs & the PTA x



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Staffing update -

As we approach the end of the academic year, there are a few staffing updates to make you aware of:

- Ms Hannah Collacott started her maternity leave this week. We are looking forward to hearing all about her new baby once it arrives.
- Welcome to Ms Anna Siddall who is covering Ms Collacott's role in the office during her maternity leave.
- Mrs Sarah Hutchinson is taking a year's career break from September 2024 – July 2025 in order to help care for her father who is currently unwell.
- The school is interviewing for Mrs Hutchinson's replacement later this month. Parents and carers will be informed of the new appointment as soon as possible.
- Mr Richard James has secured a new role at Sussex University commencing July 8th. Whilst we are very sad to say goodbye to Mr James, we wish him lots of luck and many congratulations.
- The school will be placing an advert in the near future for the vacant position.
- Mr Ben Massey (Elm Grove's next headteacher) and I have had a series of handover sessions so Mr Massey will have as much information about the school as possible before he starts in September. Mr Massey is already being included in any new decisions and staff appointments. He is also aware of all the school priorities for the next academic year. I know he is really looking forward to becoming Elm Grove's headteacher.
- Class teachers and teaching assistants for the next academic year are in the process of being agreed. Parents and carers will be informed once they have been confirmed – hopefully by the end of June.

2024-2025 Academic Year –

Planning for the next academic year is underway and parents and carers will be informed as soon as the staffing structure and classes are confirmed. We want to make sure there is plenty of time for the children to have transition opportunities during the second part of the summer term.

We intend to reshuffle the following current year groups:

Reception
Year 1
Year 2
Year 3

New class groups will be shared as soon as they are arranged.

Treating head lice advice – parents have alerted the school of ongoing issues with head lice. Treating head lice can be really challenging - there's nothing you can do to prevent head lice. But you can help stop them spreading by wet combing regularly and using a detection comb, to catch them early.

The school nurse team recommend the following information about head lice (the website includes pictures and a video about wet combing):

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>



Transition to secondary school workshop - The Family Hubs team will be running a one off workshop for parents of children about to start secondary school.

The workshop titled 'Transitions to secondary school' will look at ways parents can support their child to manage the transition to secondary school. Places are free and can be booked through the link on the webpage: [Triple P parenting workshops \(brighton-hove.gov.uk\)](https://triplepparentingworkshops.brighton-hove.gov.uk)

New PTA bird boxes in the playground



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Elm Grove Out of School Club Summer Playscheme –

Summer Playscheme is coming around the corner fast.

Our opening dates will be from Monday 29th July until Friday 23rd August.

We once again be offering a school day, starting from 9am until 3pm and a full day opening at 8am and pick up by 6pm.

Our prices for the Summer Playscheme remain unchanged at £35 for a school day and £40 for a full day. We will still be offering 10% discount for siblings and for those on benefit free school meals. (Only one discount will be applied)

If your child is in receipt of benefit related free school meals they may be entitled to free HAF spaces.

These can be booked on the EEQU website.

You just need to type in Elm Grove Out of School Club and book your sessions.

If you are not eligible your booking will be declined.

To book for paid sessions you can use our QR code or booking link on the Summer Playscheme Poster (see attached).

Kind regards

Donna

ELM GROVE OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB PRESENTS OUR
SUMMER PLAYScheme

Monday 29th July until Friday 23rd August
School day from 9am and pick up by 3pm £35
Full Day from 8am and pick up by 6pm £40
10% will be discounted for siblings and those on benefit related free school meals (only one discount will be discounted at checkout)

<https://forms.gle/g6FZTnbYashUjG6>

QR CODE FOR BOOKING

Water Fun

OBSTACLE COURSE

BBQ

FUN ON THE PATCH

STANMER PARK (WEATHER PERMITTING)

ART CRAFTS * COOKING * ROLEPLAY * DRESS UP * ASSORTMENT OF TOYS INC LEGO * DUPLO * KNEX * POPOIDS * SYLVIANIANS * SHOPKINS * CARS/AUTOS * CASTLES * ARMY FIGURES * BRIO TRAIN SET * WOODEN BRICKS * DEN BUILDING * SCOOTERS * POND DIPPING * GARDENING * CHILL OUT SPACES * PHYSICAL HALL GAMES * PLAYGROUND GAMES * PARACHUTE FUN *

Marc the Vet visit – The children really enjoyed assembly talks from Marc the Vet earlier this week. They learnt a lot about caring for their pets and other animals from hearing Marc speak, as well as answering his questions.

Marc was very impressed with the children's excellent knowledge, comprehension and behaviour.



Pantry News - We have a new email address for everyone at the school to use. Please use this email to:-

→ share any feedback

→ make any specific requests for the Pantry such as alternative food sources or uniform which you may need

→ if you are able to support the Pantry by:- Giving your time / adding some food produce to your weekly shop and bringing them in to the pantry/ making a regular donation through our local giving page/ donating your uniform which now maybe too small.

All feedback and support is very welcome.

Please get in touch with us

at pantry@elmgrovepta.com

Sports Fortnight – Sports Fortnight is entirely funded from our PE + School Sport Premium and will take place at the end of June and beginning of July. Children will have the opportunity to experience a wide range of sports (depending on their year group), including: ultimate Frisbee, basketball, gymnastics, table tennis, dance, tennis, cricket, tag rugby, capoeira ..

Sports Days and galas will also take place during this time.

Please ensure the children wear sports footwear each day and also have sun cream applied/sun hat if the weather warms up.



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Diary dates:

Date	Event
Monday 17 th June	PTA Komedia comedy night
Friday 21 st June	Refugee Week display
Mon 24 th June – Fri 5 th July	Sports Fortnight
Friday 28 th June	KS2 Sports Day at Withdean Stadium
Tuesday 2 nd July 9.30 - 10.30am	Year 2 Sports Day
Wed 3 rd July 9.30 - 10.30am	Reception Sports Day
Thursday 4 th July 9.30 - 10.30am	Year 1 Sports Day
Friday 5 th July	Secondary school transition day (Y6)
Thursday 11 th July	Year 6 leavers show
Friday 12 th July	Leaving Picnic – 2pm Bring a dish to share Annual reports home to parents and carers
Monday 15 th July	Meet the teacher - pupils
Tuesday 16 th July	Open evening (& informally meet new teachers)
Thursday 18 th July	Year 6 leavers party
Monday 22 nd July	Last day of term for children



GOLDEN BOOK MERITS

Apple	Whole class, Jax, Freddie, Louis
Cherry	Whole class, Tommy, Luca, Leif
Beech	Albie, Arlo, Mia, Agnes, Benji, John
Birch	Azlan, Maggie, Isacc, Alex, Esmae, Romy
Baobab	Naly, Autumn, Eleanor, Joshua, Edward, Ariella
Bonsai	Nate, Buzz, Rhion, Amelie, Arlo, Agnes C
Holly	Ayeza, Rosie M, Betty, Dotti, Arthur, Maria
Horse Chestnut	Estelle, Jessica, River,
Cedar	Alice, Kieran, Esme,
Cypress	Luca, Dulcie, Ornette,
Redwood	Whole class,
Rowan	Diggory, Noah, Eliza, Ruslan, Markos, Scarlett, Whole class
Elder	Arthur, Te, Erin, Toula, Javi, Christeena
Oak	Iscah, CC, Rolando, Fitz, Sienna, Beau

Miss School Miss Out

If you're not going to school you will miss out on...

- Learning new skills
- Your friends
- Support and help
- School activities
- Having fun

Being in school and on time is good for you.
90% attendance may look impressive but it means missing 19 days of education in a year.
Don't be one of the few to miss school and miss out!
If you need help with school attendance, please talk to your school for advice.

Brighton & Hove City Council

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