

Elmtree Parent Forum 2021

22nd April 2021 1.45pm



Welcome and 'Check in'

Feedback - per class, views and any questions

<p>Beech class Rosie Clegg (Harrison)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A mum wanted to express her thanks and gratitude to Mrs Taylor and Mrs McLaren for the supportive collaboration with the external agencies working with her child - A huge thank you - all the staff work incredibly hard at Elmtree to uphold the school's Vision to be inclusive to all.➤ Transitional arrangements for Summer term - We are currently waiting on guidance as to a school version of a roadmap out of the pandemic. We would like to do all we can to support pupils with transition. As soon as we know any further details these will be communicated to all families.➤ Request for staff training from a highly recommended outside source - Thank you for this additional offer for this training, Elmtree is working towards the school development Plan, the staff have planned CPD in line with school priorities. The external specialist has already spoken in person to the school SENCo and commended Elmtree on it's inclusive practice, which is why at this point we will not require this particular training.
<p>Birch class Sarah Hayward (Thomas)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Reporting arrangements this term - We will have end of year reports which will include targeted next steps for all pupils in core areas of learning. These reports will be more traditional in their depth, unlike the slimmed down versions last year, which were in light of the school's closure due to the pandemic. Reports are coming home Friday 2nd July 2021➤ Transitions - As noted we are awaiting further guidance, we would like to have planned transition day, ad hoc class visits, transitional booklets will be available and lots of relationship building opportunities for children.➤ Thanks to Miss Gettings, sadness at the loss of Mrs Kirmond but appreciation of the additional support staff in class currently - Thank you, Miss Gettings and the wider staff as always have stepped up and supported the children. We have held successful interviews and when I am able to share further information I will.➤ Also appreciation recognised for the EFF bedtime stories in the Autumn term - This was a highly successful event, staff alike enjoyed this opportunity, fingers crossed we can soon start planning more fun events.
<p>Oak class Aurelia Bogdan (Hajrah)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Childminders have concerns about making multiple drops and getting from different locations - We do appreciate the difficulties some people are facing right now, as a school we must do all we can to follow guidance to reduce social distancing and these measures mean staggered start times and the use of different entrances and exists.➤ There had at one time been an arrangement for parents to meet at Elgiva theatre and then share walks to different infant / junior schools - The school itself cannot develop family arrangements, if families want to create their own walking groups/ bubbles then we wish you good luck.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Concerns about families parking on Deansway and Bellingdon - These should all be covered as part of the living streets initiative. The Griffin Public house has offered parking in their carpark to try to ease school traffic.
Willow class Rachel Shephard (Spencer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Still finding it difficult to get feedback from families within the class. Can Mrs Brazier send a reminder text the week of the meetings to prompt families if they want to feedback to class reps – Mrs Whitehill will ask Mrs Brazier to send a reminder text for future meetings. ➤ Year 1 phonics check - Whilst statutory assessments are not required this year Elmtree will hold phonic screening checks in the summer term, this information will be shared with families via the end of year reports and support the next Teachers in their planning for their curriculum next year. ➤ Updates on outdoor learning - This week the Teachers spent 2 hours learning about the origins of outdoor learning, the Forest school principles and getting out into the 'Elmtree Wild Woods' to develop their practice. We have another 2-hour training session in May. The current plan is to start Elmtree Wild Wood sessions for all pupils in Summer two.
Maple class Sophie Sharman (Ziggy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Are we thinking about lunchtime clubs at the moment - Lunchtimes are still operating in bubbles which means that sadly we do not yet have capacity.
Cherry class Lucy Clark (Clover)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Traffic: Families agree with the notion of project - This is great news, looking forward to working with the group to support changes to this current situation. ➤ Snacks: Are children getting dried fruit - The children get fruit daily under the government 5 a day scheme. We occasionally get raisins as a contingency after school holiday breaks as they are unable to ensure fresh deliveries for the first day back. ➤ Crossing patrol officer: Are we getting a replacement? Could we consider Lowndes Avenue - Buckinghamshire Council are responsible for crossing patrols not the schools themselves, I understand adverts are going up to try to appoint a new crossing patrol officer. If there are concerns about another 'hotspot' they would need to go directly to the council.

Feedback from last meeting- any follow up actions.

All actions carried out from last meeting.

School streets initiative, <http://schoolstreets.org.uk/>

This project has now been considered as a way of positively and proactively moving forward. Rachel has very kindly offered to lead on it, Lucy has offered to work on communications.

Jane McBean, our Local Councillor and School Governor has agreed to support the development of improved road safety and pollution outside the school.

In school we will raise awareness with the children and look into creating posters and signs to promote awareness of the hazards of parking right outside the school and along Elm Tree Hill.

Other ideas to support wider development;

Question of homework: During lockdown Home Learning was the offer for children not able to attend as per lockdown measures.

Now we are back / fully open to everyone the notion of 'Homework' we had already called home learning.

Home learning is a weekly offer of activities the children had practised in school that week. Maths and English activities are swapped weekly. Home Learning is NOT compulsory to Infant school aged pupils. This home learning should be an opportunity to practise school learning, this should not be forced and we certainly do not intend for it to cause pupils, or families, any additional anxieties. Ideally this should be a positive experience for children and we encourage the practise of skills used in school.

Plan Summer 2 meeting

Week 3 Thursday 24th June 1.45pm

Agree any actions.

- Rachel, Lucy and Mrs Whitehill to collaborate on a community letter to outline our concerns on parking and local pollution and share the proposal of living streets project with a view to garner their feedback.
- Rachel, Lucy and Mrs Whitehill to collaborate on a school community letter, inviting collaboration on a working party.