



Elmtree Echo

Issue 5



Respect - Ambitious - Curious - Resilient - Inclusive



A Message from Mrs Ohene

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we step into October, we're embracing a month full of meaning and reflection. We're proud to recognise Black History Month, honouring the incredible contributions of Black individuals in shaping our communities. Inclusion is one of our core values, and this month offers an important opportunity to celebrate diversity and promote understanding. We have our Wonderful World Week, Part One, later in the month when children will learn about different continents, countries, cultures and traditions. Elmtree is certainly a wonderfully diverse school.

We also observe Baby Loss Awareness Month as a staff, a time to hold space for families who have experienced loss. Our thoughts are with all those affected — you're not alone, and we stand with you in compassion and care.

This week, the world has said goodbye to Jane Goodall, a lifelong campaigner, anthropologist and inspiration; a 'hero to the planet.' She is perhaps most famous for her work with chimpanzees and has contributed enormously to a shared understanding of the ways in which we can share the planet as humans and animals, including advocating for the protection and restoration of our natural world. As an eco-school, we have our own pledges and Climate Action Plan (see website) so that we can be more planet friendly and make a difference to the world around us, especially for future generations.

Yesterday was National Poetry Day. In assembly on Wednesday, children learned about poetry with Mr Curd. Next month we will be celebrating Michael Rosen Day (13th November) with our 'Poetry By Heart' competition. Children will have the opportunity to learn a poem for this year's theme, 'Funny Food' and perform it in school. Look out for more information in the weeks to come.

And finally, for those counting down the days — Halloween is in sight! Whether your little ones are into costumes, crafts, or all things spooky, it's lovely to share ideas and activities to get everyone in the festive spirit. 🧛 🧛



Important Dates & Events



Elmtree Infant School - Term Dates & key Events



→ Key Dates

Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th Oct – Beech/ Birch learning consultations
 Tuesday 14th Oct – Vancol's individual school photos
 Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd Oct – Oak and Willow learning consultations
 Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd Oct – Maple learning consultations
 Thursday 23rd Oct ARP learning consultations (these will follow class consultations)
 Friday 24th Oct House colour Mufti Day

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Wednesday 5th Nov – Snow white panto – school hall - Payment via MCAS app.
 Tuesday 11th Nov – Year 2 stay and learn 9am
 Wednesday 12th Nov – Reception stay and learn 9am 26-27 intake
 Thursday 13th Nov – Year 1 stay and learn 9am
 Friday 14th Nov – Nursery stay and learn 9 and 2.45
 Tuesday 25th Nov – New to Reception tours 9.30 26-27 intake
 Wednesday 26th Nov – New to Nursery tours 10-10.30
 Tuesday 9th December – Dress Rehearsal 9.30am Babes in arms .
 Thursday 11th December – Christmas production 9.15 No siblings
 Friday 12th December – Christmas production 9.15 No siblings
 Tuesday 16th December – New to reception tours 9.30 26-27 intake
 Wednesday 17th December – Nursery Xmas songs 10-10.30 Parents welcome.
 Thursday 18th December – Nursery last day (Xmas party)
 Friday 19th December – New nursery (January) visit and play.
 Friday 19th December – School closes 1.30pm

📌 Important Reminders

- Please book school lunches via ParentPay.
- If you would like to volunteer for Wild Woods or Reading please do let the office know.

📌 Stay Updated!

Keep an eye on our **school website** and **social media pages** for any last-minute changes or additional events.

Website: www.elmtreeschoolandnursery.co.uk

Contact: Office@elm.odbst.org / 01494 771474

Attendance

School attendance over the last 7 days is **91%**

Let's aim to be in **#SchoolEveryDay** next week

The champion year group this week is Year 1 and 2

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
85%	93%	93%



Remember that **#MomentsMatter**

We expect all children to attend school for at least 96% of sessions across the year.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



ATTENDANCE
EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Expected attendance means having no more than seven days off in the school year!

Attendance matters!

Below 90%
Serious Concern.
Persistent absence.

90 - 95.9%
Concern. Low
Attendance.

At least 96%
Expected
attendance.





CONGRATULATIONS



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Zaynah - Willow

Marnie - Maple

Enes - Oak

Evie-Mae - Oak

Yahya - Willow

Evelyn - Maple

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Prayag - Oak

Jasper - Maple

HEADTEACHER AWARD



Bangers and Beats





Family Connect is an informative website for parents and families. They offer a range of articles and virtual family learning courses about different aspects of parenting and child development (see link below).

[Why does she always do that? | Early Years Alliance Family Corner](#) (article)

[Family Connect | Early Years Alliance Family Corner](#) (family learning online courses)

[Family Connect: exploring schemas](#)

09/10/2025, 1:00 pm

[Family Connect: how babies communicate before words](#)

29/10/2025, 6:30 pm

[Family Connect: BBC CBeebies Parenting: supporting your child's development](#)

04/11/2025, 6:45 pm

[Family Connect: songs, stories and rhymes – supporting early communication](#)

10/11/2025, 10:00 am

[Family Connect: supporting children's emotional wellbeing](#)

26/11/2025, 6:30 pm

Could You Be a Parent Governor?

We're currently looking for enthusiastic and committed parents to join our Governing Body!

Parent Governors play a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of the school, supporting leadership, and representing the voice of our parent community. You don't need to be an expert in education — just someone who is keen to make a positive difference to our school and has a few hours to spare each term.

It's a great way to get involved, learn new skills, and contribute to your child's school experience.

Interested? We'd love to hear from you! Please contact the school office for more information or to express your interest.

Learning Consultations 2025-2026 (and beyond!)

As part of our ongoing commitment to developing children's oracy and public speaking skills from the earliest stages, we are excited to share a new approach to our learning consultations this year.

This year, children will be taking the lead in their learning consultations.

Each child will have a 10-minute appointment, supported by their class teacher, during which they will orally share their learning and talk about their progress and next steps. These sessions are an important opportunity for children to reflect on their achievements, practise speaking to an audience, and take ownership of their learning journey.

Appointments will take place during the school day on a set day for each class. This change is designed to allow children to lead their consultation within our familiar school environment and to help protect valuable family time in the evenings.

We do recognise that daytime appointments may be challenging for some of our working parents. However, our priority must lie with the children – ensuring excellence in their learning and development. By scheduling consultations during the day, we are confident that children will feel prepared and empowered to share their learning meaningfully. We look forward to seeing how they grow in confidence as speakers and learners.

Your child's consultation will take place on the following days (see table below). On this occasion, you will be assigned an appointment which we will inform you of shortly. We will review this for the Spring learning consultations following feedback in our parent forum next half term.

Nursery appointments will continue in the usual way.

Thank you for your continued support.

R Beech	Tuesday 14th October/ Thursday 16th October
R Birch	
1 Oak	Tuesday 21st October/ Thursday 23rd September
1 Willow	
2 Maple	Monday 20th October/ Wednesday 22nd October
ARP	



Mental Health
Support Team
Buckinghamshire



FREE

**FOR PARENTS
AND CARERS**

LIVE WEBINARS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH



**DATES:
OCT- DEC
2025**



**TIME:
6PM - 7.30PM**

To register, scan the QR codes on the next page!






01865 901566



bucksmhst@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SECURE YOUR PLACE:

Topic	Date	Link	QR code
Overview of Mental health – Primary	Monday 20th of October 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/c250a6a6-2c15-4997-be09-407feae1ef4e@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	
Overview of Mental health– Secondary	Monday 3rd of November 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/0d1c87a5-b3b5-4a9b-a4b2-dbbcbce77abf@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	
Childhood Anxiety	Monday 17th of November 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/741a9c4f-0eb4-4a23-9694-def68b6eb3b5@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	
Adolescent Anxiety	Monday 1st of December 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/ffeb1299-da8c-44dc-8d3b-6ad980e5c729@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	