



# Elmtree Echo

Issue 27



**Ambitious - Curious - Resilient - Inclusive**



## A Message from Mrs Ohene

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely welcoming back our children this week. They have settled in, eager to learn.

In our assemblies this week, we have shared our key messages of:

- Ready, Respectful, Safe, Kind
- Hands Off, Play On
- First Time Every Time (zero seconds)
- Wonderful Walking

On Thursday, Mr Curd introduced our new OPAL play opportunities for this term: sand and water play, hairdressing dolls, tuff trays with gravel and toy animals/ vehicles, toy garden making kits. Our House Captains gave us lots of ideas before the holiday so we're making our way through their list! They will be our play leaders and help to set up and keep our resources tidy.

As we enter the summer term, a reminder that playsuits are not suitable for young children as they find these difficult to undo to go to the toilet. Summer dresses, shorts and skorts are all welcome. P.E. jumpers should be either black crew neck jumpers or an Elmtree jumper. No hoodies please as these present safety risks. Please ensure your child has a hat and water bottle in school every day. If the weather is set to be hot then please apply sunscreen before school.

Next week we look forward to our 'Wonderful World Week 2' during which we will share the story, 'The Journey Home' by Frann Preston-Gannon. The children will learn about key aspects of our environment including the dangers facing planet Earth and how we can protect it. On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, it is Earth Day. Elmtree is taking part in 'THE BIG SWITCH OFF' event from 7-8pm. We ask that you switch off devices, lights and any other appliances you can (not the fridge/ freezer!) in a community effort to conserve energy.

In March, the WWF held their Earth Hour global event to raise awareness about climate change and protecting our planet.

From **7.00-8.00pm** families are encouraged to switch off non-essential lights and electrical items for one hour as a simple but powerful way to show they care about the future of our Earth.

## How families can get involved

Taking part is easy and can be a lovely way to spend time together. You might choose to:

- Turn off lights and screens for the hour
- Use candles or torches (safely!)- torchlight story time, or stories by candlelight
- Play board games or read stories together
- Go outside for a short night walk and look at the stars

Talk as a family about ways to help the environment

Earth Hour has grown into a worldwide movement since it began in 2007, with millions of people taking part each year.

## Why it matters

While switching off for one hour is symbolic, it helps raise awareness and encourages longer-term changes in how we care for our planet. It reminds us that small actions, when taken together, can make a big difference.

## Linking to our Green4Life Charter

Taking part in THE BIG SWITCH OFF is a wonderful way to support our Eco-Schools Climate Action Plan, helping children understand the importance of sustainability and the role we all play in protecting the environment.

## Join in!

Whether you take part for the full hour or just a few minutes, every action counts. If your family joins in, we'd love to hear about what you did!

## More information about Earth Day and Earth Hour:

[Earth Day 2026 | Theme, Activities, Events & Resources](https://www.earthhour.org/)

<https://www.earthhour.org/>

If your child/ children go to bed before 7pm then feel free to take part before that!

There is a lot to look forward to this term with our stay and learn sessions, World Cultural Day (20<sup>th</sup> May), our ODBST Eco-Conference (21<sup>st</sup> May), sports day (17th June at Thomas Harding for children in Reception, Year1 and Year 2), trips and visits, workshops and more. We will even be welcoming an orchestra to Elmtree, an opportunity for the children to listen to live, classical music.

Finally, before the break, we had a visit from the Buckinghamshire Early Years advisor, Louise Merriden. Her opening comments in the report captured Elmtree beautifully:

*'The school demonstrates an exceptionally proactive approach to supporting children. They ensure that every child feels valued, respected and able to participate fully in all aspects of the curriculum. During the visit, staff interactions were consistently warm, respectful and responsive, demonstrating a clear commitment to supporting children's emotional needs alongside their learning. The team clearly know their children well. Strong, trusting relationships have been established between adults and children, resulting in positive attachments and a sense of belonging across the setting.'*

If you are out and about this weekend, do try and see the bluebells- they are stunning at this time of year and a real treasure to our woodlands.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Ohene

# Attendance

School attendance over the last 7 days is **96%**

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

The champion year group this week is Year R

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
97%	94%	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.



## Parent Governor opportunity for Elmtree

We are currently seeking to appoint a Parent Governor to join our Governing Body for a four-year term. This is an exciting opportunity to play an active role in supporting the continued growth and development of Elmtree, helping to shape the strategic direction of the school and ensure the very best outcomes for our children.

Parent Governors bring a valuable parental perspective, and we particularly welcome parents who have specific skills or experience they feel could contribute to the work of the Governing Body. No prior governance experience is required — enthusiasm, commitment, and a desire to make a positive difference are key.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact the school office for further information: [office@elm.odbst.org](mailto:office@elm.odbst.org)



# CONGRATULATIONS



## CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Saoirse - Oak

Freya - Maple

Deena - Willow

Maya - Willow

Esmae - Maple

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Emily - Willow

Annie - Nursery

Shalom - Oak

Aayat - Nursery

## HEADTEACHER AWARD

Marnie - Maple

Scarlett—Maple

Alfie—Maple

Esmae—Maple



## Important Dates & Events



### Elmtree Infant School - Term Dates & key Events



#### ➔ Key Dates

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April - EARTH DAY (wear blue/green)

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April- 2.45pm - Phonics Screening Check briefing for Yr1 parents in the hall

Friday 1st May - Class Photographs

Tuesday 5th May - Year 2 to Dr Challoner's High School - Year 2 Games

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May- Farm visit

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May - All classes stay and learn 9.00am

Wednesday 13th May - Carnival Club - 3.10 (Parents to attend)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May - World Culture Day – Wear cultural clothing

Wednesday 20th May - Carnival Club - 3.10 (Parents to attend)

**\*\*\*Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May- INSET Day\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May Half Term\*\*\***

Wednesday 3rd June - Carnival Club - 3.10 (Parents to attend)

Wednesday 10th June - Carnival Club - 3.10 (Parents to attend)

Friday 12th June - Year 2 to Legoland

Saturday 13th June -Chesham Carnival

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June - Early lunch 11am; 1.00pm- SPORTS DAY at THJ

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June - DADS BEHAVING DADLY 2.30PM

Saturday 4th July - Summer Fayre

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July - NEW TO RECEPTION PARENT MEETING

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July - NATIONAL TRANSITION DAY

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July – Reception Vision Screen 9am

Tuesday 21st July - Year 2 Leavers performance and assembly.

**\*\*\*Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July - End of term 1.30pm\*\*\***



# Buckinghamshire Family Learning



## FREE

### EARLY YEARS COURSE IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE for parents and carers of children age 1 - 2

#### **WONDERFUL ONE - LEARNING THROUGH PLAY**

Course code: [EYPL053](#)

Explore how to combine learning with fun, and help your child develop a natural curiosity and imagination. Through play you will learn how to improve language, logic and motor skills.



Wednesday 22nd April - Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May



10am - 12pm



Hope Church, Chesham  
HP5 2DB



TO BOOK  
YOUR PLACE



01296 383582 - Enrolment team  
or SCAN the QR code  
or CLICK on the course code link

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION



07768 044 813 - Wendy

SCAN ME



buckinghamshireadultlearning



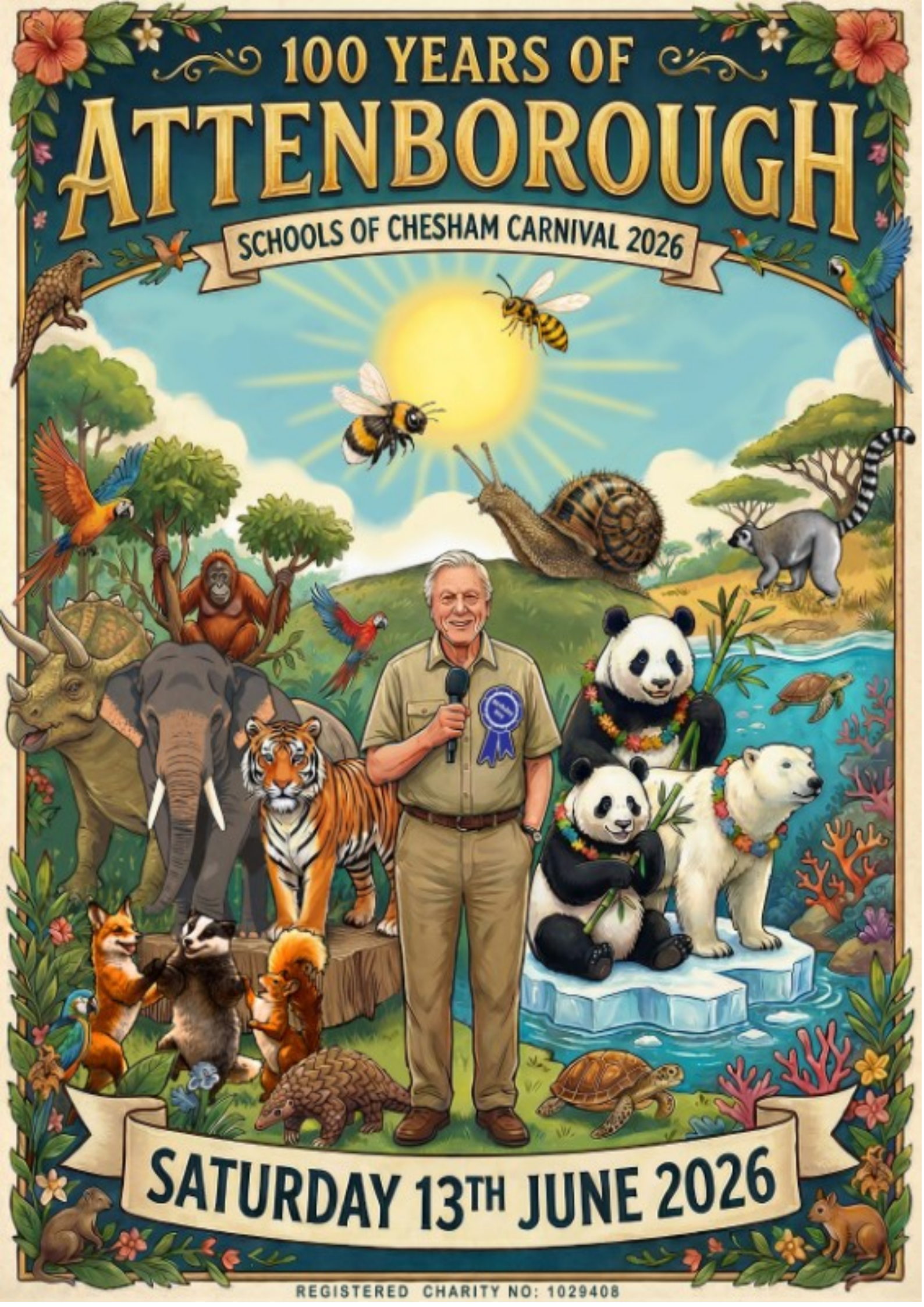
adultlearningbc.ac.uk



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# 100 YEARS OF ATTENBOROUGH

SCHOOLS OF CHESHAM CARNIVAL 2026



SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026

# SAFETY REMINDER

## [Child car seats: the law: Using a child car seat or booster seat - GOV.UK](#)

### Using a child car seat or booster seat

Children must [normally use a child car seat](#) until they're 12 years old or 135 centimetres tall, whichever comes first.

Children over 12 or more than 135cm tall [must wear a seat belt](#).

You can choose a child car seat based on your child's height or weight.

### Height-based seats

Height-based seats must be rear facing until your child is over 15 months old. Your child can use a forward-facing child car seat when they're over 15 months old.

You must check the seat to make sure it's suitable for the height of your child.

Only approved height-based child car seats can be used in the UK. These have a label showing a capital 'E' in a circle and 'R129'.

### Weight-based seats

The seat your child can use (and the way they must be restrained in it) depends on their weight.

Only approved weight-based child car seats can be used in the UK. These have a label showing a capital 'E' in a circle and 'ECE R44'.

You may be able to choose from more than one type of seat in the group for your child's weight.

	Group	Seats
<b>0kg to 10kg</b>	0	Lie-flat or 'lateral' baby carrier, rear-facing baby carrier, or rear-facing baby seat using a harness
<b>0kg to 13kg</b>	0+	Rear-facing baby carrier or rear-facing baby seat using a harness

<b>9kg to 18kg</b>	1	Rear- or forward-facing baby seat using a harness or safety shield
<b>15kg to 25kg</b>	2	Rear- or forward-facing child car seat (high-backed booster seat or booster cushion) using a seat belt, harness or safety shield
<b>22kg to 36kg</b>	3	Rear- or forward-facing child car seat (high-backed booster seat or booster cushion) using a seat belt, harness or safety shield

Manufacturers can A doctor can issue an exemption certificate if a child is unable to use a restraint or seat belt because of their condition.

now only make booster cushions approved as group 3. This will not affect any existing booster cushions in group 2 and you'll still be able to use them.

### **Fitting a child car seat**

You must only use a child car seat if your car's seat belt has a diagonal strap, unless the seat is either:

- specifically designed for use with a lap seat belt

fitted using ISOFIX anchor points

You must also:

- deactivate any front airbags before fitting a rear-facing baby seat in a front seat

not fit a child car seat in side-facing seats

The [Child Car Seats website](#) has information on how to choose a seat and travel safely with children in cars.

### **Children with disabilities or medical conditions**

The same rules apply for children with disabilities or medical conditions, but they can use a disabled person's seat belt or a child restraint designed for their needs.

## **Uniform reminder: P.E. Kit**

Elmtree jumper/ cardigan

White crew neck t-shirt

Plain black joggers/ plain red shorts

Plain black trainers (no symbols, no other colours)

*Children should attend school in school shoes or plain black trainers. Boots/ slip-ons and other types of footwear are not allowed.*