



Elmtree Echo

Issue 31



Ambitious - Curious - Resilient - Inclusive



A Message from Mrs Ohene

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had an exciting week at Elmtree. Our visiting farm on Tuesday was a huge hit- the children enjoyed seeing, stroking and cuddling the animals. Some learnt the different names of the animals for the first time- goat, chicken, duck, lamb, mouse, rat, bunny/ rabbit. There were so many to choose from!

On Thursday, we had a visit from the New Mozart Orchestra who delighted us with their storytelling and, most especially, live music. Children learnt about the woodwind and string families with all the names of the different instruments: double bass, cello, viola, violin; bassoon, clarinet, oboe, flute, recorder. There was even a trumpet solo! The children were very excited to listen to the different sounds the instruments made.

Following a monitoring visit from our Trust, we are implementing new presentation guidelines in KS1 to help support the children to present their work neatly and with the correct letter formation for handwriting:

★ Our Writing Rules in KS1 ★

Let's make our writing look neat and easy to read! Remember these simple rules:

🟡 Start at the margin

Begin your writing next to the line on the left.

🟡 Leave spaces between words

Put a space between each word so everyone can read it easily.

🟡 Use capital letters and full stops

Start your sentence with a **capital letter** and finish with a **full stop**.

🟡 Form your letters carefully

Make your letters the right shape:

- **Tall letters** (like *l, t, h*) reach up high

Long letters (like *g, y, p*) go down below the line

🟡 Write on the lines

Keep your letters sitting neatly on the line.

🟡 Keep small letters the same size

All your small letters should be the same height so your writing looks tidy.

💡 **Take your time and try your best – neat writing helps everyone read your work!** 💡

We have set our children in KS1 a challenge which we introduced in assembly today:

- * Ongoing efforts will be rewarded with 'well done' certificates.
- * 3 beautifully presented pieces of work across the curriculum, earns a Headteacher's award.
- * Sustained presentation and neat handwriting earns a golden pencil and then they are in 'The Golden Pencil Club!

Please encourage your child to hold a pencil correctly (tripod grip):



Thank you for your continued support.

Next week, we look forward to our World Culture Day on Wednesday- children can dress in traditional clothes or the colours of a flag they associate with.

We finish on Thursday 21st May at 3.10pm.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Ohene

Headteacher

Attendance

School attendance over the last 7 days is 95%

Let's aim to be in #SchoolEveryDay next week

The champion year group this week is Reception

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
96%	93%	92%



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



CONGRATULATIONS



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Marnie - Maple

Faye - Oak

Deena - Willow

Khadijah - Maple

Kaja - Oak

Harleigh - Willow

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Lenny - Maple

Callen - Oak

HEADTEACHER AWARD

Ishel - Willow

Deena - Willow

Shaban - Nursery

Oliver - Nursery

Tommy - Birch

Michael - Birch



Important Dates & Events



Elmtree Infant School - Term Dates & key Events



→ Key Dates

Wednesday 20th May - World Culture Day – Wear cultural clothing

Wednesday 20th May - School Disco 3.10-4pm payment via MCAS

*****Friday 22nd May- INSET Day*****

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

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

Friday 5th June - Dress up as David Attenborough or an animal of choice—to celebrate David Attenborough turning 100.

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

Friday 12th June - Year 2 to Legoland

Saturday 13th June -Chesham Carnival

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

Wednesday 17th June - Willow class assembly 9am

Friday 19th June - DADS BEHAVING DADLY 2.30PM

Tuesday 23rd June - Nursery sports day 9.15am (PM children to attend)

Saturday 4th July - Summer Fayre

Monday 6th July - NEW TO RECEPTION PARENT MEETING

Tuesday 7th July - NATIONAL TRANSITION DAY

Wednesday 15th July – Reception Vision Screen 9am

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

*****Wednesday 22nd July - End of term 1.30pm*****

A huge thank you to our wonderful *Chesham in Bloom* volunteers, Chris, Sue and Claire, and to our enthusiastic Gardening Club, led so brilliantly by Mr Curd, for their tremendous efforts this term. Your hard work and dedication are already transforming our outdoor spaces into something very special.

There has been fantastic progress across the garden: potatoes are beginning to sprout, a bug hotel has been started, and one of the new beds has been expertly reinforced and filled — with special thanks to Chris for his support.

Our young gardeners have been busy planting runner beans and nasturtiums, preparing pea sticks, and clearing an older bed ready for new life.

Seeds of Pak Choi, radish, and chard have now been sown, while our established wildflowers are looking vibrant and full of promise. We've also begun preparing an old sand tray, which will soon be home to courgette plants.

It is wonderful to see such enthusiasm, teamwork, and care for our environment. We look forward with excitement to seeing the fruits — or perhaps vegetables! — of your labour in the weeks ahead. Thank you all for your continued commitment and pride in our school grounds.





Farm Visit 12th May





Stay and Learn 13th May





Mozart Orchestra Performing for Elmtree 13th May



The JR Sports Group

Making each day brighter for every child



Fun first



Inclusive



Safety



Quality



The children had a brilliant time learning how to make fidget balls, I think the coaches (although covered in flour) enjoyed it too! Elmtree also received some new loop bands to be creative with too!