



Elmtree Echo

Issue 29



Respect - Ambitious - Curious - Resilient - Inclusive



A Message from Mrs Ohene

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do believe this is an occasion when I have the liberty of repeating myself...

I do hope you have a chance to read our Ofsted report. It truly reflects Elmtree and the hard work of all our staff and the dedication of our community.

The inspection highlighted many strengths in our school, including: "pupils enjoy being part of this kind and supportive school" and further, "staff ensure pupils are at the heart of everything they do." We are particularly proud that we have been recognised for having "high ambitions for pupils' achievement."

This result could not have been achieved without the tireless efforts of our wonderful staff. Their passion, professionalism, and resilience were evident throughout the inspection and continue to shine every day. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to each and every member of our team for their exceptional work and unwavering dedication to our pupils' learning and wellbeing.

I would also like to thank you – our parents and carers – for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership. Your positive engagement with the school plays a crucial role in our success, and we are truly grateful.

While we are proud of what we have achieved, we remain committed to ongoing improvement and ensuring the very best outcomes for all our children. The report provides helpful guidance on how we can continue to grow, and we look forward to building on this strong foundation together.

You can read the full report on our school website or via the Ofsted website.

Thank you once again for being such an integral part of our school community.

Mrs Ohene

VE Day Celebrations

The children will be able to wear red, white and blue on Thursday (sensible footwear please) as we celebrate in school with a whole school picnic at lunchtime, on the field. Children can bring in a packed lunch. Alternatively, please order a sandwich lunch from Maison chef. A special thanks to Miss Percival and Mrs Hendley for organising this.

Unauthorised holidays

Taking holidays during term time has a detrimental impact on children's learning, development and well-being.

If your child takes unauthorised holidays or takes longer than the time agreed by the Headteacher, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Sanctions could be imposed including:

- *Your child could lose their school place
- *You could face a penalty fine (per parent per child)
- *You could be subject to legal action by the authority that could result in a fine of up to £2,500. If your child has an unauthorised absence, such as taking holidays during term time, re-occurring lateness, or persistent absence for any other reason other than certified illness, the school will refer the matter to the Council for consideration of a Penalty Notice and/or Prosecution in the Magistrates' Court which may lead to a criminal record with a maximum fine of £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

Regular and punctual attendance is both a legal requirement and essential for your child to maximise the opportunities available to them.

School uniform

Now that we are in warmer months, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for school. They can wear summer dresses, shorts, skirts, polo t-shirts and their usual footwear: sensible, fastened shoes; no slip-ons, no boots, no trainers unless they are completely black. See image for acceptable footwear at Elmtree:





CONGRATULATIONS



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Marnie - Oak

Arjun - Cherry

Lola - Maple

Enes - Birch

Livia - Beech

Arlo - Beech

Deena - Birch

Harvey - Oak

Kleant - Cherry

Thierry - Maple

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Zayyan - Nursery

Rayya - Nursery

Eesa - Nursery

Violet - Cherry

Abdul S - Cherry

Aditya - Maple

Maleeha - Maple

Antoni - Birch

HEADTEACHER AWARD



Important Dates & Events



Elmtree Infant School - Term Dates & key Events



→ Key Dates

9th May - Year 2 to DCHS - Parent help needed

19th June - Summer Ball (during school hours)

13th/20th May - Carnival costume prep - 3.10pm (Parents to accompany)

3rd/10th June - Carnival costume prep - 3.10pm (Parents to accompany)

♥ Upcoming Highlights

8th May - VE Day - Wear red, white and blue—Picnic lunch

15th May - EFF Coffee, cake and uniform sale

16th May - EFF Mufti - Bring a bottle for Carnival

14th June - Chesham Carnival 'The Day the Crayons Quit'

28th June - EFF Summer Fayre (time tbc)



Important Reminders

- **Please book school lunches** on the Schoolbitez website.
- 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

School Attendance

What parents and carers need to know

Why attend every day?

Attending school at Elmtree is crucial for your child's early education for several reasons:

1. **Early Development:** Infant and Nursery children are in a critical stage of brain development. High quality early education at Elmtree provides a stimulating environment that promotes cognitive, social, and emotional development.
2. **Social Skills:** School offers children the chance to interact with peers, helping them develop essential social skills such as sharing, cooperation, and empathy.
3. **Routine and Structure:** School provides a consistent routine that helps children feel secure and understand the flow of daily activities. This structure can be beneficial for their overall development.
4. **Language Development:** Engaging with teachers, support staff and other children in school exposes children to rich language experiences, which are vital for communication skills and literacy development.
5. **Physical Development:** Early education includes activities that promote fine and gross motor skills, such as climbing, drawing, and playing with various materials. Children in the EYFS are supposed to be out of breath several times a day- they are at Elmtree!
6. **Emotional Resilience:** Being in school helps children learn to navigate emotions and build resilience by self-regulating, as they experience new situations and develop coping strategies.
7. **Parental Support:** Early schooling can also be an invaluable resource for parents, providing you with support and information about your child's learning and progress.

Foundation for Future Learning: The experiences and skills gained in early education lay the groundwork for later academic success, making the transition to formal schooling smoother from the early years to key stage one, and then to key stage two (and beyond).

Attending school for at least 96% of the time supports children to thrive in a nurturing environment, setting the stage for lifelong learning and development.

When a child can be absent from school

A child must attend school every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill. Medical appointments such as for the dentist/ GP should be made outside of school timings.

Children should never miss school for reasons such as, but not limited to:

- Holidays during term time (these will not be authorised)
- Shopping
- Birthdays
- To wait in for a repair person
- To take a family member to an appointment

You have a legal duty to ensure that your child attends school every day and is on time.

Taking your child out of school during term time for holidays is also likely to impact on their achievement. There are 38 weeks in the year when schools are open, and 14 weeks when families can take holidays. Head teachers can only authorise a leave of absence in exceptional circumstances.

School Attendance

The effects of irregular attendance

A pupil who misses 10% or more of school (equivalent of 1 day or more per fortnight) is less likely to attain their potential academically.

Missing school can also:

- cause anxiety about returning
- cause difficulties in maintaining friendships

mean missing out on socialising and decline in general wellbeing

Support

We know children may struggle to attend school for a wide range of reasons. We will always work with you to help overcome any issues. Elmtree has strong pastoral support and there are several different ways we can support your child to attend school. If you would like any further information then please speak to our Family Liaison Officer, Miss Snowdon.

Consequences

If your child takes unauthorised holidays or takes longer than the time agreed by the Headteacher, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Sanctions could be imposed including:

Your child could lose their school place

You could face a penalty fine (per parent per child)

You could be subject to legal action by the authority that could result in a fine of up to £2,500. If your child has an unauthorised absence, such as taking holidays during term time, re-occurring lateness, or persistent absence for any other reason other than certified illness, the school will refer the matter to the Council for consideration of a Penalty Notice and/or Prosecution in the Magistrates' Court which may lead to a criminal record with a maximum fine of £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

Regular and punctual attendance is both a legal requirement and essential for your child to maximise the opportunities available to them.

Understanding the impact of lateness and absence for your child



At Elmtree we have a soft start from 8.45-8.55am. Gates close at 8.55am. Registers close at 9.00am. If your child arrives after this, they will be marked as late.

If in a school year a child is late by-	Your child will have lost approximately this much learning-
5 minutes	3.2 days (16 lessons)
10 minutes	6.3 days (32 lessons)
15 minutes	9.5 days (48 lessons)
20 minutes	12.7 days (64 lessons)
25 minutes	15.8 days (79 lessons)

School Attendance

In order to achieve our expected 96% attendance success, children must be in school for at least 184 out of 190 days. This means that no more than 6 school days can be missed to ensure your child achieves their full potential and maximises their learning.

If a child's attendance during the school year is-	Your child will have lost approximately this much learning-
96%	6 days (30 lessons)
95%	9 days (45 lessons)
90%	19 days (95 lessons)
85%	29 days (145 lessons)
80%	38 days (190 lessons)
75%	48 days (240 lessons)

The EFF Easter Egg Race



CHESHAM CARNIVAL—JUNE 14TH

'THE DAY THE CRAYONS QUIT'

WE ARE THRILLED TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS YEAR'S CHESHAM CARNIVAL, WHERE OUR THEME IS INSPIRED BY THE DELIGHTFUL BOOK, **"THE DAY THE CRAYONS QUIT"**!

GET READY FOR A DAY FILLED WITH **COLOURFUL FUN**, CREATIVITY, AND EXCITEMENT.

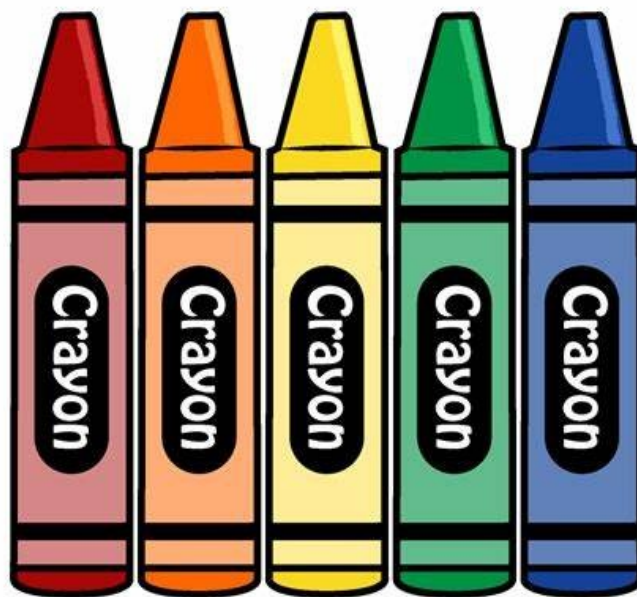
IT'S A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY FOR FAMILIES TO COME TOGETHER, CELEBRATE, AND **MAKE WONDERFUL MEMORIES.**

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS **VIBRANT EVENT!** PLEASE SIGN UP AND JOIN US FOR A DAY THAT PROMISES TO BE AS FUN AND IMAGINATIVE AS THE CRAYONS THEMSELVES.



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

**THE DAY the
CRAYONS QUIT**



Buckinghamshire Family Learning

Every Day First Aid Workshop

Increase your confidence in applying basic first aid



What can I do if my child chokes, gets burnt or has a minor injury?



What do I do in an emergency situation?

 **Newtown Family Centre**

 **Wednesday 7 May**

 **9:30 am to 12 noon**

To book your free place call our enrolment team on 01296 383582, scan the QR code or click on [EYFA042](#)
For more information call/text Wendy on 07768 044813 with your name

