



Elmtree Echo

Issue 23/24



Respect - Ambitious - Curious - Resilient - Inclusive



A Message from Mrs Ohene

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had such a busy week at Elmtree! On Monday, we began with Chesham in Bloom helping some of our wonderful children to plant fruit trees on our field. Each class elected a representative to do this so there are now 5 class trees in our grounds. We look forward to them bearing fruit!

In other news, our overall attendance has stayed stable at 94%, not quite our expected 96% but we will persevere. Persistent absence has significantly decreased from this time last year, from 21.4% to 13.3%. This is a huge achievement for our community- THANK YOU! Every moment matters. Keep this up!

On Tuesday and Wednesday, we had Darren Aisthorpe, Ofsted inspector, in to appraise our school. We were already clear about our strengths which have been shown in abundance as well as our areas to develop. Our children are an absolute credit- they have been exceptional in demonstrating our Elmtree values.

Also on Wednesday, we had our 'Eat Them To Defeat Them' media event. Children were engaged in workshops and veggie tasting. We want to instil a love for healthy lifestyles in the children and our wider community. Habits formed early tend to stay for the long-term so here's to healthy eating and healthy lifestyles from 3-7 years and beyond!

Please do keep an eye out for dates. We will re-schedule Birch parent consultations and the EFF meeting in due course.

This week we have been thinking about and talking about wonderful women. It was International Women's Day on 8th March. We talked about ladies we love in our homes who are role models. Elmtree is an inclusive school.

We teach children about healthy relationships through our curriculum, challenging stereotypes. The children talked confidently about their female role models and the ways in which they help them. Here's to women everywhere- may we be them, may we raise them and may we raise each other up!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Ohene



CARRIE FISHER



FRIDA KAHLO



HARRIET TUBMAN



ROSA PARKS



MALALA YOUSAFZAI



JOY HARJO



MARIE CURIE



RUTH BADER GINSBURG



AMELIA EARTHART



CONGRATULATIONS



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Rayyan—Maple

Jessica—Maple

Kara—Cherry

Arjun—Cherry

Esmee—Oak

Mahnoor—Cherry

Harvey—Oak

Finley—Maple

Deontay—Maple

Malik—Maple

Franio—Cherry

Amira—Oak

Colby—Maple

Alfie—Oak

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Yunus—Nursery

Amelia—Oak

Ishal—Beech

Rohaam—Beech

Kara—Cherry

Diana—Birch

HEADTEACHER AWARD

Attendance

School attendance over the last 7 days is **93.9%**

Below our expected 96+%

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

The champion year group this week is **Year 2**

Reception *Significantly Below*

89.1%



Year 1 *Below*

93.6%



Year 2

97.8%



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.





Important Dates & Events



Elmtree Infant School - Term Dates & key Events



→ Key Dates

17th March - Parent Consultations 3.45 - 6.45pm (Beech/1/2)

17th March - Daisy Parent Consultations 1-3pm

18th March - Rose Parent Consultations 1-3pm

19th March - Tulip Parent Consultations 1-3pm

20th March - Lavender Parent Consultations 1-3pm

20th March - Parent Consultations 3.45 - 6.45pm (Beech/1/2)

♥ Upcoming Highlights

21st March - Class Photographs

27th March - Oak Class Assembly 9am

📌 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

8 steps to support your child to be safer online

- 1. Explore together.** Ask your child to show you their favourite websites and apps and what they do on them. Listen, show interest and encourage them to teach you the basics of the site or app.
- 2. Chat little and often about online safety.** If you're introducing them to new websites and apps, talk to them about how to stay safe on these services and in general. Ask if anything ever worries them whilst online. Make sure they know that if they ever feel worried, they can get help by talking to you or another adult they trust.
- 3. Help your child identify trusted adults who can help them if they are worried.** This includes you and other adults at home, as well as adults from wider family, school or other support services. Encourage them to draw a picture or write a list of their trusted adults.
- 4. Be non-judgemental.** Explain that you would never blame them for anything that might happen online, and you will always give them calm, loving support.
- 5. Supervise their online activity.** Keep the devices your child uses in communal areas of the house such as in the living room or kitchen where an adult is able to supervise. Children of this age should not access the internet unsupervised in private spaces, such as alone in a bedroom or bathroom.
- 6. Talk about how their online actions affect others.** If your child is engaging with others online, remind them to consider how someone else might feel before they post or share something. If they are considering sharing a photo/video of somebody else, they should always ask permission first.
- 7. Use 'SafeSearch'.** Most search engines will have a 'SafeSearch' function, allowing you to limit the content your child can access online. Look out for the 'Settings' button on your web browser homepage, often shaped like a small cog.
- 8. Parental controls.** Use the parental controls available on your home broadband and all internet enabled devices in your home. You can find out more about how to use parental controls by visiting your broadband provider's website.

Helpsheet

parents and carers: primary



Education from
the National
Crime Agency

Support your child with CEOP Education resources

CEOP Education films and games are a great way to start and continue chats about online safety:

4-7s

Jessie & Friends

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends-videos/

A three-episode animated series which helps keep 4-7s safer online.

4-7s website

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/

Featuring characters from Jessie & Friends, the 4-7s website helps children to recognise worrying or scary situations online through four interactive badges covering: watching videos, sharing pictures, online gaming, chatting online.

8 – 10s

Play Like Share

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/playlikeshare/

A three-episode animated series that helps keep 8-11 year olds safe from risks they might encounter online.

Band Runner game and advice website

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/

A fun interactive game that helps reinforce key messages about online safety.

Other recommended resources

NSPCC PANTS. A simple way to keep children safer from abuse, by teaching them to remember the 5 rules that spell 'PANTS'. www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/

Internet Matters. A useful tool showing how to set parental controls across a range of devices and websites. www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/interactive-guide/

Follow us on social media

For up to date information and advice:

@CEOPUK on Twitter

ClickCEOP on Facebook



www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

Keeping your under 5 safe online

We want children at Elmtree to be able to use the internet safely, responsibly and positively. With your help, we can achieve this.

Whether it's watching videos, playing games on their devices or talking to Alexa – today's under 5s are spending more time online. In this article we look at the benefits of children accessing the internet and share advice about how to make sure your child has a safe experience online.

Statistics released by Ofcom show that over 50% of children aged 3-4 go online for nearly 8 hours a week, and 1 in 5 children aged 3-4 have their own tablet.

This may be surprising, but [research](#) has shown that families are spending more on technology for a number of reasons:

- To further their children's education,
- to maintain connections with family and friends,

and to facilitate and enjoy daily life.

How young is too young to start talking to my child about online safety?

It's never too early to start taking action to keep your child safe online.

As soon as your child starts talking about or exploring the online world, you should start conversations with them about their online activity and put support in place.

[Research](#) has found that children form 'digital habits' during early development (such as using devices after bedtime). Therefore, it is important for parents to support children to develop positive – and lasting – digital habits from an early age.

What are the benefits of my under 5 using technology?

There are many benefits of children engaging with technology from an early age. The internet provides children with opportunities to learn, connect with family, develop creativity, as well as have fun. Apps, games and websites designed for under 5s help children to improve their literacy and numeracy skills and supports them to develop their fine-motor skills (such as their ability to move fingers independently by pointing and pushing buttons, and improving hand-eye coordination).

A number of families use video chat and messaging services as a way to connect with family and friends, which allows young children to maintain relationships with relatives.

There are lots of child friendly sites you can explore with your child, such as [Cbeebies](#), where children can watch videos, play games, learn and be entertained.

What can I do to support my under 5?

There are lots of things you can do to support your under 5. This is not a complete list, but a range of strategies you can use to improve your child's online experience:

1. Explore together: Explore your child's favourite apps and websites with them. This can be a fantastic way to find out what your child enjoys doing online, as well as having fun and learning together.

2. Talk to your child about their online experiences: Start and continue regular conversations with your under 5 about what they enjoy doing online, introducing online safety messages. These conversations can be a great way to reinforce the message that if your child sees anything online which makes them feel worried, they can tell you or another adult they trust.

3. Supervise your under 5 while they're online: Keep the devices your child uses in communal areas of the house such as in the living room or kitchen where an adult can supervise. Children under 5 **should not** access the internet unsupervised in private spaces, such as alone in their bedroom or bathroom.

4. Parental controls: Make use of the parental controls available on your home broadband and any internet enabled device in your home. You can find out more about how to use parental controls by visiting your broadband provider's website, or by viewing advice/step-by-step guides available on the [internet matters site](#).

5. SafeSearch: The use of 'SafeSearch' is recommended for use with young children. Most web search engines will have a 'SafeSearch' function, which allows you to limit the material your child can see when they're online. Look out for the 'Settings' button on your web browser homepage, which is often shaped like a small cog. It is important to understand that no 'SafeSearch' function is 100% effective, and this cannot be used alone to protect your child from being exposed to age-inappropriate material.

6. Set boundaries: As a family you can agree a set of rules, such as locations in the house where devices can be used, times of day your child can use devices, or which age-appropriate apps or websites they can access. On devices you do not wish your under 5 to access, use passwords and keep these out of reach of your child.

7. Lead by example: Modelling the digital habits you expect from your child (for example, no tablets during mealtimes) can be an effective way of supporting young children to develop their own positive digital behaviours from an early age.

By following the advice in this article, you will be improving your child's online experience as well as helping to keep them safer online.

Getting support if things go wrong.

There are lots of organisations who are there to support you and your family if something has gone wrong. The [Report Harmful Content website](#) can help you with issues such as cyberbullying, impersonation and threats. You can report worrying behaviour towards children to [CEOP](#). Find out more on [Childnet's Get Help page](#).

Reassuring your child that whatever happens online, you are there to support them.

Let your child know that the best way to address any problem they have online, is to tell a trusted adult immediately. For example, this might include someone sending them a friend request; an online message; telling them to visit a specific website, or app; or asking them for their personal information. Reassure them that if anything happens online that they are unsure about, or makes them feel worried or upset, they can come to you for help.

