

Message from Mrs Ohene

Dear Parents and Carers,

This weekend, we celebrate Harvest– a time for thanksgiving. It is a time to show our deep gratitude for the food we eat and its journey in getting to our plates. We give thanks to the farmers, the pickers, the transport companies, grocers and all those who have a role in food production, distribution and culinary art! I wonder what cuisine you will have for dinner tonight?

Today is National Teaching Assistants' Day! We want to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to all our support staff, teaching assistants and learning support assistants. Their work is invaluable to supporting our children and staff. Very often, their work forms the very foundation stones of school life, attending to every child with empathy and kindness. The qualities and values demonstrated through helping with learning, addressing first aid or medical needs, supporting with additional needs go above and beyond! On behalf of our Elmtree community, I want to extend my own THANK YOU. Who you are makes all the difference.

In other news, our EFF raised £145 a couple of weeks ago in the uniform/ cake sale. Watch this space for future dates.

Have a lovely weekend– stay dry!

Warmest regards,

Mrs Ohene



Together we reach for the stars



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CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday

Inaaya - Maple

Rabail - Oak

Krishvin - Nursery

Well Done Assembly Certificate

- Patryk - Maple
- Charlie - Maple
- Rose - Cherry
- Kleant - Cherry



Autumn 1

Dates for the diary

- 30th September Harvest Assembly Reception/Yr1/Yr2 9.05am Parents can attend
- 1st October Year 2 to deliver Harvest donations to local residents
- 3rd October All children to come to school in PE kit – Street Dance Workshop
- 2nd October Nursery Harvest Assembly 9.05am and 1.05pm Parents can attend
- 9th October New Reception tours for 2025-2026 intake 9.30am
- 10th October 5-5.30 EFF AGM
- 15th October School Photos (individual /sibling)
- 17th October New Reception tours for 2025-2026 intake 1.30pm / EFF fancy dress costume sale 3.00-3.30pm
- 21st – 25th October **Wonderful World week** (Me, My community, My world, Marvellous Me)
- 24th October Wonderful World Week international dress Mufti Day—3pm EFF Cake sale
- 25th October Winning house team colour mufti day
- 5th November New Reception tours for 2025-2026 intake 9.30am
- 5th November Parent Consultations—Bookings available shortly
- 6th November Parent Consultations—Bookings available shortly

28th October - 1st November Half Term



Please park safely and legally

The area around school gets very busy at the beginning and end of the school day.

Please leave plenty of time to get to school in the morning and afternoon.

We encourage all families to walk, cycle or scoot to school. This reduces the traffic around school. Alternatively, you can 'Park and Stride' (park a little further away and walk, scoot or cycle the rest of the journey).

If you have no option but to bring a car, please park safely and lawfully - not on any zig-zag markings/ yellow lines and not over any dropped kerbs or outside residential properties. Please do not park in the staff car park.

This week we have spotted cars parked outside residential homes, blocking residents in. Parking in these areas causes considerable congestion, and is a danger to our children and families.

Please do not leave engines running as this creates increased pollution around school, which our children and families are breathing in.

Thank you for helping to improve parking, congestion and traffic flow on Elm Tree Hill to help support the safety, health and well-being of our children.

Bags

At Elmtree, we allow children to bring a traditional, school book bag and PE bag. We do not allow any other type of backpack or rucksack.

Why do we have this rule?

We don't have the space to store larger bags. Bags are stored in trays, on hooks in classroom cupboards, or on hooks in the corridors. We are not able to store back packs (other than drawstring bags) in this way.

We don't ask children to bring lots of equipment into school.

We don't want parents to feel under pressure to buy the latest, fashionable bags from Smiggle, Nike or Adidas which can be very expensive.




Attendance


School attendance over the last 7 days is **95.8%** this is below our target of **96%**


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

Champion Year Group: Year 1

This weeks attendance :

Reception - 92.7% 

Year 1 - 97% 

Year 2 - 92.7% 

Remember that **#MomentsMatter**

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



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.



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



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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



School Attendance

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.

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 Snowden.

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.





Dear Parents and Carers of Reception, Year 1
and Year 2,

you are invited to our Harvest assembly on
Monday 30th September at 9.05am.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

We look forward to seeing
you in the school hall.





Dear Parents and Carers of Nursery,
you are invited to our Harvest assembly on

Wednesday 2nd October

9.05 morning parents

1.05 afternoon parents

HARVEST FESTIVAL

*If your child attends Nursery all day, then you
can choose which session to come to.*

*We look forward to seeing you in our
Nursery.*





EFF NEWSLETTER

SEPT 2024

Get in touch - friendsfamily@elmtree.bucks.sch.uk

WELCOME BACK!

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer break! Here are the key dates this term for EFF events in the hall:

Friday 13th Sept 2.30-3.30pm

Headteachers Welcome with Uniform & Refreshment Sale

Weds 16th Oct 5-6pm

EFF AGM (*also on Zoom*)

Thurs 17th Oct 3pm

Costume Sale

Thurs 24th Oct

Wonderful World Week Mufti Day
Cake Sale at 3pm

See you there! Aimee, Sarah & Emma
(Chair, Treasurer & Secretary)

WE NEED YOU!

To ensure a smooth transition we need parents/caregivers of children in Nursery/Reception to come forward this term for the following roles:

Chair - to lead the EFF and help organise events

Vice Chair - to assist in the running and organising of events

Secretary - to help with the administration side of the EFF

They can then shadow our current committee until they leave at the end of the school year. Please email!

It's wonderful that last school year we raised just over £4000! This meant we were able to pay for a ticket for every child from R - Yr 2 to go for a school trip to the Panto, pay for the farm visit for Nursery and contribute to school trips. Thank you for everyone's donations last year and to our volunteers help at each school event!



WHO ARE WE?

The EFF is the school's PTA - our volunteers organise events throughout the year to fund exciting activities & buy additional resources for the children at Elmtree.

DO YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

If you would like to get involved in helping the EFF please get in touch. It really is a fun, social way to get to meet other parents. You will also really be making a difference to enhancing the children's education! If we have no new uptake by the end of 2024 unfortunately we will have to dissolve the PTA at the end of the school year.

Sickness Policy

Infection	Exclusion period	Comments
Athlete's foot	None	Athlete's foot is not a serious condition. Treatment is recommended.
Chicken pox	Five days from onset of rash and all the lesions have crusted over	
Cold sores (herpes simplex)	None	Avoid kissing and contact with the sores. Cold sores are generally mild and heal without treatment.
Conjunctivitis	None	If an outbreak/cluster occurs, consult your local Health Protection Team (HPT).
Diarrhoea and vomiting	Whilst symptomatic and 48 hours after the last symptoms.	
Diphtheria *	Exclusion is essential. Always consult with your local HPT	Preventable by vaccination. Family contacts must be excluded until cleared to return by your local HPT.
Flu (influenza)	Until recovered	Report outbreaks to your local HPT.
Glandular fever	None	
Hand foot and mouth	None	Contact your local HPT, if large numbers of children are affected. Exclusion may be considered in some circumstances.
Head lice	None	Treatment recommended only when live lice seen.
Hepatitis A*	Exclude until seven days after onset of jaundice (or 7 days after symptom onset if no jaundice)	In an outbreak of hepatitis A, your local HPT will advise on control measures.
Hepatitis B*, C*, HIV	None	Hepatitis B and C and HIV are blood borne viruses that are not infectious through casual contact. Contact your local HPT for more advice.
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted /healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment	Antibiotic treatment speeds healing and reduces the infectious period.
Measles*	Four days from onset of rash and recovered	Preventable by vaccination (2 doses of MMR). Promote MMR for all pupils and staff. Pregnant staff contacts should seek prompt advice from their GP.
Meningococcal meningitis*/ septicaemia*	Until recovered	Meningitis ACWY and B are preventable by vaccination (see national schedule @ www.nhs.uk). Your local HPT will advise on any action needed.
Meningitis* due to other bacteria	Until recovered	Hib and pneumococcal meningitis are preventable by vaccination (see national schedule @ www.nhs.uk) Your local HPT will advise on any action needed.
Meningitis viral*	None	Milder illness than bacterial meningitis. Siblings and other close contacts of a case need not be excluded.
MRSA	None	Good hygiene, in particular handwashing and environmental cleaning, are important to minimise spread. Contact your local HPT for more.
Mumps*	Five days after onset of swelling	Preventable by vaccination with 2 doses of MMR (see national schedule @ www.nhs.uk). Promote MMR for all pupils and staff.



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Sickness Policy

Infection	Exclusion period	Comments
Ringworm	Not usually required.	Treatment is needed.
Rubella (German measles)	Five days from onset of rash	Preventable by vaccination with 2 doses of MMR (see national schedule @ www.nhs.uk). Promote MMR for all pupils and staff. Pregnant staff contacts should seek prompt advice from their GP or midwife.
Scarlet fever	Exclude until 24hrs of appropriate antibiotic treatment completed	A person is infectious for 2-3 weeks, if antibiotics are not administered. In the event of two or more suspected cases, please contact local health care provider.
Scabies	Can return after first treatment	Household and close contacts require treatment at the same time.
Slapped cheek /Fifth disease/Parvo virus B19	None (once rash has developed)	Pregnant contacts of case should consult with their GP or midwife.
Threadworms	None	Treatment recommended for child & household.
Tonsillitis	None	There are many causes, but most cases are due to viruses and do not need an antibiotic treatment.
Tuberculosis (TB)	Always consult your local HPT BEFORE disseminating information to staff/parents/carers	Only pulmonary (lung) TB is infectious to others. Needs close, prolonged contact to spread.
Warts and verrucae	None	Verrucae should be covered in swimming pools, gyms and changing rooms.
Whooping cough (pertussis)*	Two days from starting antibiotic treatment, or 21 days from onset of symptoms if no antibiotics	Preventable by vaccination. After treatment, non-infectious coughing may continue for many weeks. Your local HPT will organise any contact tracing.

***denotes a notifiable disease. It is a statutory requirement that doctors report a notifiable disease to the proper officer of the local authority (usually a consultant in communicable disease control).**

The PHE guidance can be found here:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>



BRONZE: GOOD TRAVEL PLAN 2023



Healthy Lunches at Elmtree



YES PLEASE



NO THANK YOU

Chapattis/ wraps/ sandwiches with healthy fillings such as: chicken, cheese, tuna, cucumber, potato.	Chocolate, chocolate biscuits, chocolate spread/ jam, any other chocolate.
Fruits and vegetables (some may need to be chopped up).	Cakes/ biscuits of any kind.
Yoghurts	Sweets
Breadsticks	Crisps
Chicken bites/ veggie bites	Smoothies/ Yoghurt drinks
Spaghetti/ pasta/ noodles/ rice (in a thermos); wholegrain would be even healthier!	Flavoured water/ juice (Fruitshoots of any kind).
Cucumber/ carrots sticks and Hummus.	Junk foods: pizza, nuggets, chips, fried chicken.
Mini cheddars/ crackers	NUTS

At Elmtree, we want the very best start for our children. This includes ensuring they eat healthily. Providing healthy lunches is essential for several reasons. Here is our rationale for wanting our children to eat healthy lunches:

1. Nutritional Needs

- **Growth and Development:** Children are in critical stages of growth, requiring balanced nutrition to support physical and cognitive development.
- **Energy Levels:** Nutritious meals help maintain energy throughout the school day, improving focus and learning.

2. Academic Performance

- **Concentration and Focus:** Proper nutrition is linked to better concentration, memory, and overall academic performance.
- **Reduced Absenteeism:** Healthy eating can lead to better health, reducing absenteeism due to illness.

3. Healthy Habits

- **Lifelong Skills:** Schools can play a crucial role in teaching children about healthy eating and making nutritious choices, fostering lifelong healthy habits.
- **Social Norms:** When healthy options are promoted in schools, it normalizes these choices among peers.

4. Preventing Health Issues

- **Chronic Disease Prevention:** Healthy lunches can help combat childhood obesity and reduce the risk of chronic diseases like diabetes and heart disease. Did you know that 10% of Elmtree children were obese or overweight in 2022-2023?
- **Mental Health:** Nutrition affects mental well-being; balanced meals can support mood regulation and mental health.

5. Food Education

- **Culinary Skills:** Exposure to different foods encourages children to explore and develop their tastes, promoting culinary skills.
- **Cultural Awareness:** Offering diverse foods can enhance cultural appreciation and inclusivity among students.

6. Behavioural Benefits

- **Reduced Behavioural Issues:** A well-nourished child is less likely to experience mood swings and behavioural difficulties, leading to a better learning environment.
- **Better Relationships:** Healthy eating can contribute to improved social interactions and cooperation among peers.

7. Community and Environment

- **Waste Reduction:** Emphasizing healthy, whole foods can reduce food waste and encourage mindful consumption.

Healthy lunches at school create an environment that supports not just academic success but also the overall well-being of children, laying the foundation for a healthier future.



**NUT FREE
ZONE**

Communications App



My Child at School app

A convenient way to stay connected with your child's school experience.

The app provides access to important information such as attendance, reports, timetables, and school messages.

To get started, please download the app from your app store and use the unique login details provided by the school.

If you need help or haven't received your login information, please contact the school office.

Thank you for staying engaged in your child's education!

A screenshot of the 'my child at school.com' login page. At the top is the logo. Below it is a blue button labeled 'PARENT LOGIN'. There are two input fields: 'Email' with an envelope icon and 'Password' with a lock icon. A checkbox labeled 'Remember Email Address' is on the left. On the right, there are links for 'Reset Password' and 'Sign Up'. A large blue 'Login' button is at the bottom. At the very bottom, it says 'v5.2023.8721.30501' and 'Powered by Bromcom'.