

ELMWOOD JUNIORS NEWSLETTER

May 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

Last week we had the Year 6 SATs week. Tests undertaken by all Year 6 children up and down the country. These tests are designed to check that education standards across the whole country are being raised and that children are well prepared for the rigours of Secondary School. While many may debate the usefulness of exams for 10/11 year olds, here at Elmwood we want to equip our children to do their very best, and we are hugely proud of how well the Year 6 have maturely tried their best. Here at Elmwood we believe that education is so much more than passing exams, that we want to equip the children not only to fulfil their potential academically so that they can seize the best opportunities that may be presented, but that we believe the Elmwood Learner values, fully embraced by all Elmwood children will set them up for a lifetime, regardless of academic ability. This is why every thing we do is to promote these powerful values with your children.



In last Monday's assembly Mr Ozgu asked the teachers which 3 values are perhaps the most important to you and your family? Perhaps you would like to answer Mr Ozgu's question—which 3 Elmwood values are the most important to you and your family? When we reflect on what we truly stand for in life it can strengthen us with resolve that when challenges arise, in whatever form, we are sure of what we stand for!

I hope you and your family have a fantastic May Half term break—summer is arriving! Stay safe and remember school starts again on Tuesday 4th June.

Kind regards

Mr Marston

Year 3

Entry point - Growing Beans

As part of our topic 'Growth and Change', and to help children understand the important role that plants play in our lives, year 3 planted French Bean Climbing plants. Throughout the term they had to take responsibility for their plant ensuring that they provided it with all the things it needed to grow. They made sure it was planted in the soil, watered it regularly and checked that it was getting enough air and sunlight. Each week, the children were extremely excited as they made observations and measured how tall it had grown. They all displayed great responsibility while caring for their bean plants and when they got too big for the classroom, planted them in our garden dome so that they could be used for the future or even in their school dinners!



Art - Claude Monet

In art this term, we have been studying Claude Monet, an impressionist painter. The children created some very creative research pages about the artist, experimented with colour theory and then created their final project which was in the impressionist style and painted it 'en plein air' which is french for painting in the open air, where most impressionist artists created their paintings.



Science - Plants

Science has been so much fun this term! The children have conducted many of their own experiments and explored what plants need to survive. They have explored the plant life cycle and learnt about germination, pollination and seed dispersal.



DT - Food technology

As part of our DT this term, the children created and baked their own seasonal tarts for the parents at the Book Wagon fair. First, they did some research about different climates and why food comes from different parts of the world, then they practised their cutting and peeling skills and did some taste testing in order to choose their own 3 fruits or vegetables for their seasonal tarts. They then designed them and baked their own tarts using their chosen toppings. I'm sure you will agree, they were delicious!



Year 4

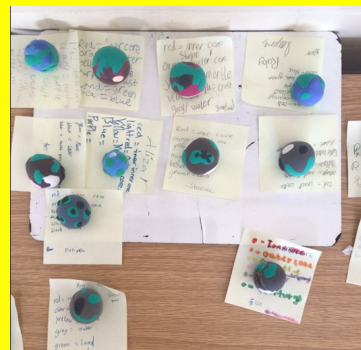
Year 4 trip to National History Museum

As our entry point for this half term's theme, 'Disaster, Hope and Healing' we took the children on a trip to the National History Museum. During our visit, we participated in an engaging workshop on earthquakes and volcanoes and then had time to explore the exhibits across the entire museum. It was evident that the children really enjoyed the day, demonstrating a clear understanding of the new learning content and the chance to see lots of exciting pieces at the museum.



Hands-on learning!

This half term, the children have participated in lots of 'hands on' learning experiences. From creating mini-globes, reflecting the different layers of the earth in Geography to investigating melting, chemical reactions and creating large-scale diagrams of the water cycle in Science. We have seen the children demonstrate lots of our core learning values, team-work, resilience and confidence. We hope that all these practical experiences will help the children retain key information and be things they talk about for years to come!



Year 5

Art

Our theme this half term in Year 5 has been Space and Exploration, so a lot of our learning has been about our amazing universe, including in Art.

We took inspiration from the Artist Peter Thorpe, who paints pictures of space using bold colours, to create our own space scene masterpieces! Here are some photos of us creating our base backgrounds. As a challenge, we were only allowed to use the primary colours (red, blue and yellow), and used our knowledge of secondary colours to create the colours we wanted.



Computing

In Computing we learnt how to program micro:Bits. Micro:bits are tiny pocket sized computers that you can program to do different things. Using the program Make Code, we programmed our Micro:bit's to show our names, display different emojis, and created a heart beat!

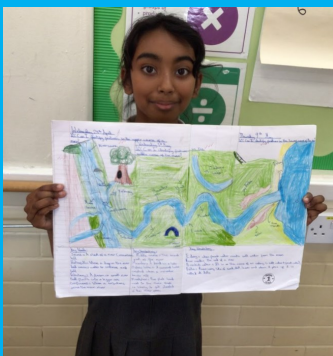


Geography

Year 5 were learning all about rivers and their features in Geography this half term.

Quiz time - Can you describe the following features of a river and how they are formed?

- An Oxbow lake
- A meander
- The source



Year 6

In Year 6, we have been working extremely hard to revise for our SATs which took place on 13th-16th May. I would like to thank all adults who have supported our Year 6 in our SATs papers in and out of school. It is really appreciated. As part of our revision, we did a Grammar revision Treasure Hunt around the school, did Maths games like 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire' and 'The 1% Club'. We even tried out a maths-based escape room which proved to be very popular.

In English, we have been studying 'The Last Bear' by Hannah Gold and have created a dialogue, scientific report, and motivation speech on the topic of the environment.

We are ending the half term by turning our attention to our Year 6 production which, this year, will be... MATILDA! The children are all very excited and it would be fantastic if you could practise their songs and lines at home with them.

Spanish

We are excited to announce the inaugural LanguageNut competition taking place throughout our school. Students are eagerly participating, striving to secure top positions on the leaderboard, both as individuals and as part of their respective classes. The competition has generated a buzz of anticipation as students eagerly await to see who will emerge as the leaders.



READY TO PLAY?

EARLY BIRD!

HUNT FOR HIDDEN
BIRD ICONS TO WIN

27/05/2024 - 01/06/2024

10% OFF EVERYTHING + AN EXTRA 5% OFF IF YOU FIND ALL THE ICONS



2024 Attendance Awards

CONGRATULATIONS!

A big congratulations to **6S** & **3B** who achieved 100% attendance for an entire week this half term!



Key dates for your diary Summer 2024

- 3/6 School Closed—INSET Day
- 5/6 Y6 Lion King Trip 1
- 6/6 Elmwood STEM Day
- 12/6 Y6 Lion King Trip 2
- 13/6 5A & 5S Trip to Sikh Gurdwara
- 14/6 5F & 5DJ Trip to Sikh Gurdwara
- 14/6 Class photos and Y6 Individual photos
- 17/6 Year 2 to Year 3 Transition Week
- 17/6 Croydon athletics Week (Finals on 21/6)
- 19/6 – 21/6 — Y6 Residential Trip to High Ashurst
- 26/6 Y6 Lion King Trip 3
- 27/6 International Dress Up Day (Letter to follow)
- 2/7 Y5 Secondary transfer information meeting
- 6/7 – Elmwood International Fair
- 8/7 – Olympic International Week
- 10/7 Elmwood Summer Concert
- 11/7 Lower Juniors Sports Day
- 12/7 Upper Juniors Sports Day
- 17/7 & 18/7 Y6 Matilda Production
- 17/7 3S & 3B Trip to Littlehampton
- 18/7 3C & 3R Trip to Littlehampton
- 24/7 Y6 Graduation Day!
- 24/7 Last Day of the academic year—13:30—Early closing

MIP roll call for May

A huge well done to all these children for showing you can improve if you really focus and try your very best.

Who is your Most Improved Person - This term?

3S	3B	3C	3R
Alex	Hawa	Luca	Dheva
4BI	4Ba	4R	4K
Bleu	Natalia	Nico	Nabeeha
5F	5S	5A	5DJ
Sunjay	Sebastian	Chuk	Eshal
6H	6P	6F	6S
Fabian	Faryaal	Ehaan	Malaya

Which 3 values would you want to raise your children on?

