

 	<p>ELM PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL Nicholls Lane, Winterbourne, Bristol, BS36 1NF <i>website: www.elmparkprimary.com</i> <i>Contact: 01454 866750</i> <i>e-mail: elmparkprimary@gmail.org.uk</i></p> <p><i>Inspiring Learners, Enriching Lives, Achieving Together</i></p>	
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Newsletter 1

Friday 8th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you all for the warm welcome and for an excellent first week back after the summer hols. Your children's smiles have already made me feel at home. Thank you.

It has been my absolute pleasure to welcome everyone back to the new school year. Special welcome to all new staff, families and new pupils who are starting with us this term. It's great to see that I'm not the only 'newbie'!

I've been able to make a fast start in my new role – largely thanks to Mrs Williams, Mrs Bond and all the school's wonderful staff who have passed on so much useful information to me during the summer term after I was appointed in May. Again, thanks to all.

This year we'll be challenging ourselves to make our best even better and also to make bigger strides in areas where we know we can improve further. Your children remain our steadfast focus in all that we do at Elm Park. We are successful when each child feels the buzz and positive momentum that comes from moving forward in their own learning in a happy, safe and fun community. There is no finish line to our challenge ... rather it is the journey that we must both relish and celebrate together every day!

Partnerships and teamwork are key to Elm Park's continued and improving successfulness as a community. I look forward to working with all colleagues and families to ensure that our children make excellent progress and enjoy a rewarding and enriched school life here.

Wishing you all a good weekend ... after a very busy first week back!



Andrew Evans
Head

Parking reminder

Please observe the parking restrictions around the school and do not park on the zig-zag lines (including in the gate entrance at the front of the school). Clear access to the front entrance is required at all times. When dropping children to breakfast club, please park in a suitable place.

We've had calls this week from several neighbours about blocking driveways and local businesses. We understand the difficulties in parking for all parents but we do also rely on good relationships with our neighbours too ... so *please don't do this!*

Awards and Achievements

Celebrating all the amazing things our children achieve (both in and out of class) is **essential** at Elm Park.

In response to feedback received we're refreshing some of the rewards we give and also how we award them ... so that the children's sense of pride and prestige is heightened!
(NB we're resting star of the week and writer of the week this year).

Here's a summary of our key Pupil Awards for the coming year:

1. Our House Points system is absolutely awesome and so we're building on it some more ...our scoring system display will now be at the front of the hall and is much more visible (accessible) for all to see and follow. We'll also be adding up all the scores and awarding the winning House 'the treat' 3 TIMES A YEAR!!!
2. Each class will now have 6 Superstars noted in The Gold Book every week (2 pupil awards in each class for Learning, 2 for Behaviour and 2 for Special Acts or Deeds). These pupils will all receive a Gold Book Certificate in our Friday Achievement Assemblies.
3. Each class will also have a Pupil Award for brilliance at lunchtime and in the playground. These pupils will be spotted by our lunchtime supervisory colleagues.
4. We'll continue to celebrate outside school successes, trophies etc as before.

This year **we'll be awarding school-based Awards one week after the achievement** so that we can give all parents some advance notice that your child is about to go up in an Assembly (eg **this week's awards will be presented at our first Friday assembly next week**).

IMPORTANT BIT – STARTING TODAY Y1-Y6!!!!!!

Please check your child's bags every Friday for 1 of our GOLDEN TICKETS!

IF your son or daughter is going to receive an award on the following Friday they'll have a 'ticket' in their bag letting you know. We do hope that the advance notice will help working parents / grandparents to make it along and share in the celebration with us.

New Reception Parents please note that Ms Jones will let you know exactly when the Reception Class will be starting to join in the above assemblies, once they've all settled in.

Friday Achievement Assemblies

These start on Friday 15th September.

PLEASE NOTE:

1. They will now run from 3.00pm – 3.20pm
2. Where Class Shared Assemblies are scheduled (tbc), the parents of the individual class only will be invited to come in at 2.45pm before our main assembly follows at 3pm.

Newsletters and Communication

It's so important that we all communicate effectively and regularly as a community. We're very conscious of overloading families with very long newsletters. (If I'm honest I don't always read these when I get them from my own children's schools!)

This term we'll be trialling a fortnightly newsletter as a general rule. And we'll try to keep them no longer than this whenever possible. Please do give us your feedback during the term.