

Elm Park "In Touch"



Newsletter 11: 18th January 2019

Coming Soon ... Key Dates

24/01/19 and 31/01/19 Y5 Pedestrian Training
30/01/19 SATs Meeting 3.00pm
06/02/18 Y6 and Y3 Road Safety Workshops
08/02/19 PTFA Spring Disco
12/02/19 T3 OPEN CLASSROOMS 8.30-8.45am
14/02/19 T3 OPEN CLASSROOMS 3.30-3.50pm
15/02/19 End of Term 3
25/02/19 Term 4 begins (children return on 26th Feb)
25/02/19 Inset Day
05/03/19 Y6 to Lifeskills Centre
18/03/19 Book Fair arrives
19/03/19 Parents Evening
21/03/19 Parents Evening
22/03/19 PTFA Mothers Day Sale
01/04/19 EYFS Hearing and Vision Screening
05/04/19 End of Term 4
23/04/19 Term 5 begins
29/04/19 Class Photos
24/05/19 Last day of term for children
25/05/19 End of Term 5 (Inset Day)
03/06/19 Term 6 begins
23/07/19 End of Term 6
(new dates in bold)
25/02/19 Inset Day
24/05/19 Inset Day

Letters home this week:

Choir letter
EYFS Newsletter
Maths Letter (Y2-Y6)

Week 2 news bites..

Sports Updates

We have now managed to enter both our Boys' and Girls' Football Teams (Y5& Y6) in local school leagues for T3 & T4. First Boys' match is next Tuesday 22nd Jan after school; first Girls' fixture is on Monday 28th Jan. Chris is kindly training and helping to run both our teams. Many thanks also Ms Coates for supporting our Girls' team.

Mrs Byrne & Mrs Lugg will be in touch with Y3-Y6 parents in the next week re swimming team trials. The South Glos Schools' Gala is in early March and we're very keen to enter teams for both Lower and Upper KS2.

Great to hear that the 2019 10k is already sold out and that so many staff members are in training to join in this year! Look out for details of a school sponsored fun run to be held in the week before the 10k – I'm sure our children will love being part of the wider running celebrations.

Our STEM day was such a success (thanks to all parents, staff and children) that we're already exploring some further whole-school event days this year. Together with Chris & Rob (our coaches) we've already started drafting an Active Day schedule for all children YR-Y6. More info to follow.

Week 2 news bites..

Lego Robotics

Elm Park Sharks reach for the stars after performance goes swimmingly

Wow! We had the BEST day on Wednesday at the regional First Lego League (FLL) Lego robotics competition at HP in Filton. The 14 participants and supporters from the Elm Park Sharks, made up of the year 5 and 6 members of the Lego Robotics club, were an absolute credit to the school and put in a fantastic performance!

FLL is a themed global competition for children aged 9 to 16. This year's theme was Into Orbit. Each team had to design, build and programme a Lego robot to perform a series of space exploration-themed missions. The atmosphere at the event was tense and exciting, with 18 teams – many of them secondary age – competing in three rounds each. The Sharks were thrilled to finish the main event in third place with an amazing score of 85 points! The top six teams then competed in the knock-out stage; in spite of another strong performance the Sharks finished fifth.

Teams participating in FLL are judged on their understanding and demonstration of the competition's core values. Each team created a poster of their experiences and ideas and they were also judged on their behaviour and conduct throughout the day of the competition.

Each team had to research and present a project of their choice. The Elm Park Sharks chose to come up with solutions for keeping fit in space. They researched and discussed both nutrition and the challenge of exercising without gravity. The judges loved their ideas and their Lego prototype of a water-free swimming machine. In fact, the team explained their ideas so well that the judges struggled to think of questions to ask them! We were thrilled that their efforts were rewarded with the runner up trophy for their project!! Go Sharks!!

Everyone made a real effort to live the core values and children from one school had even baked scrummy gingerbread men to share with the other teams and judges! The excellent behaviour and sportsmanship, alongside the fantastic organisation of the event, intense music, live commentary and Downend School's back-flipping robot, made the day a LOT of fun.

A big shout out to Fin and the year 6s who instigated this year's participation in FLL. The team-working between all the members of the club has been impressive to see. The Elm Park Sharks couldn't have entered the competition without the input of Stuart Kellock who stepped in to run the club with support from Al Scarlett and several other parents. Stuart has put a huge amount of energy into the team, enthusing and motivating them to prepare for the competition in a short space of time. Stuart also gave up several days in the half-term and Christmas holidays to give the children valuable extra time. Thanks Stuart!

Week 2 news bites..



