



**DO YOU HAVE A CHILD DUE TO
START SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER?**

If so, please let us show you around our wonderful school.

Open afternoons every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

**Contact the school office on: 01454866750
or email elmparkprimary@gmail.org.uk**

to book an appointment.

School Newsletter 2

01.10.2021

Inspiring Learners, Enriching Lives, Achieving Together

Dear Families,

As I sit at my desk, I am looking out at the change in seasons. The leaves on the trees are slowly changing colours and there certainly has been a cold nip in the air as I stand on the gate in the morning. Autumn has definitely arrived and with it lots of excitement. The rain provided particular joy for our youngest children as many receptions enjoyed splashing in puddles! Sorry about the wet socks. ☺

This week saw our first Governors meeting of the school year. During the meeting, we discussed and agreed school priorities. We create these priorities by looking at our end of year data and what we can do to ensure the very best provision for our children. I wanted to share these with you so that you can see the positive changes and improvements we continue to make to ensure that we can give our children the very best learning experience possible whilst also ensuring that we continue to work hard to ensure that we support all of our children to catch up from the impact of 2 national lockdowns.

We have 5 priorities for the year, which form our school improvement plan. These are:

- ✓ To accelerate progress of lower and middle attaining children so that they reach expected standard or higher in reading, phonics and mathematics.
- ✓ To implement the revised Early Years Framework within EYFS.
- ✓ To continue to develop a clear writing progression throughout the school.
- ✓ To further enhance subject leadership through connected curriculum teams.
- ✓ To develop a new build school, which is a hub for the local community.

Throughout the year, I will be giving updates on how we are working together as a team to achieve these targets and look forward to sharing our continued successes. If you are interested in finding out more, we have a vacancy for a parent governor. Further information about how to apply for this really interesting position will be available next week.

Inspiring

World Teachers' Day.

On Tuesday 5th October, two very important things are happening. The first is World Teacher's Day. It is a chance to thank teachers all over the world for the incredible job they do. As a country, we are very blessed to have free education, which is inclusive. As we hear all too often on the news, this is not the case throughout the world. So, we would ask that you take a moment on Tuesday to remember a teacher who has inspired you and share this with your children. Find out who they are inspired by. It would be lovely to hear their responses!

I will start. I had an incredible year 3 teacher. Her name was Mrs Evans. She was a rather short and slightly stern looking lady but her smile made her eyes twinkle. She gave me my passion for maths. It was at 7 years old, whilst

listening to her read the BFG, that I realised that I wanted to become a teacher... Thank you Mrs Evans. You were and still are an inspiration.

PTFA

The second important event is our first PTFA meeting of 2021. Please come along to the meeting. I can promise cake and a cuppa whilst we share plans for the year and talk about how you can get involved. Being on the PTFA can feel rather daunting but it truly isn't. You will be volunteering with an incredible group of highly committed parents to help enrich our children's experiences at school. Your role can be as big or small as you like, from helping to wrap Mothers' day gifts to organising the Christmas fayre. No experience is necessary. Please come along to the school hall on Tuesday at 6:30 to find out a little bit more and see how you can help.

Enriching

We had such an inspiring and memorable time on Monday for our French afternoon! It was heart-warming to see the enjoyment, smiles and laughter on everyone's faces whilst we all learnt about French speaking countries, key phrases in French and some traditional playground games.

This is what Noah and Erin thought:

"We came to school in non-school uniform because in France, they get to wear whatever they want as long as it's appropriate. We played some extremely fun French games in PE, like 'un deux trois soleil' and we got quite competitive. We learnt a song about fruit in French and we sang it at the end of the day. It was called "J'aime les fruits" and the teachers danced around in fruit costumes (Miss Bell looked great in her strawberry costume)."



Thank you so much to Mrs Johnstone for all of the time you spent organising such a remarkable day.

PE and Sports News

The new equipment and games have continued to be popular in the KS2 playground, with lots of children enjoying happy, more active playtimes.

This week, we appointed Playground Leaders to support the children in EYFS and KS1. Children in Year 5 who were interested in this role completed application forms and 12 children were chosen for Terms 1 and 2. Congratulations to Phoebe, Chloe, Martha, Louiseanna, Isla, Erin, William, Tobias, Tyler, Finley, Elijah and Noah.



They have all taken part in a training session and are now providing support and encouragement to the younger children during their active playtimes. Thank you to you all for giving your time and being such brilliant role models.

Achieving

House Team News

It has been a fantastic fortnight for earning house points. All the children have been very busy collecting points for following our 5 Golden Rules.

This term's house points so far are:

1st – Red – 607 points

2nd – Blue – 577 points

3rd – Yellow – 543 points

4th – Green – 490 points



Congratulations to all of our children, who have achieved house points this week.

It was also wonderful to be able to hand out an award for Rugby to Daniel. I was so proud to hear that you have scored your first try of the season – I hope you have many more!

If your child has an award that they have received out of school and they would like it shared on Friday celebration assemblies, please pop it in an envelope with your child's first and last name on it and I would be delighted to share it with the whole school.

Finally, I wanted to say good luck to Mrs Sturgeon, who is running the London Marathon this weekend in aid of Sands – a truly remarkable charity. To any other members of our community, who are also taking part, we wish you the very best of luck and look forward to hearing your incredible stories next week! Team Elm Park will be cheering for you all.

With best wishes for a happy weekend.

Carol Bond

Head Teacher