



Elm Park Primary School  
Newsletter No. 8 28.01.2022  
Inspiring Enriching Achieving  
Head teacher's Message



Dear Families,



Today, I attended a virtual meeting with the Local Authority in reference to our new build. The meeting was an incredibly productive meeting and I am happy to share with you some long overdue updates! We have a new principle contractor – BAM. I have already met with them on three separate occasions during the course of the past few weeks and have been really impressed with their passion for building our new school. They have already got to work taking full site measurements and have even marked out the new build! They have devised a build schedule, which is hoping to be fully finalised in the next few weeks, but currently, the expected start date for the project is... drum roll please...

June 2022, honouring South Glos Council's last correspondence to move into the building in September 2023.



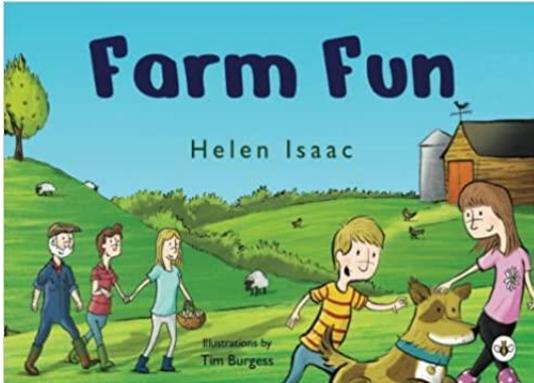
This week also saw our first PTFA meeting of 2022. Mrs Lugg and I were truly inspired but the passion and commitment of the small but energetic team of parents committed to helping our children through fundraising. Hot on the agenda were preparations for the Valentine's Disco... always a firm favourite of the year. Additionally, we discussed the Mothers' Day present sale and my favourite... the annual Easter Egg Hunt! As always, the only way our PTFA can make these events a success is with your help. Over the course of the next few weeks, there will be some information sent home via our PTFA about how giving up just an hour of your time once a term can make a huge difference to our children.

To show the difference our PTFA fundraising makes, take a look at these pictures of our new exercise equipment! All eight workstations have begun to be used and the children are really excited to have this amazing equipment.



## Inspiring

As you may have seen in the local magazines, our resident author and amazing HLTA, Mrs Isaac, and a former Elm Park pupil, Tim Burgess, have created magic for the second time with the publication of Farm Fun. This is a follow up to Helen's first book Allotment Fun.



Farm Fun is available to buy on several well known websites and I am sure that, if you bought a copy, Mrs Isaac would be more than happy to sign it for you! During the course of the year, I know our children would really love to hear what inspired Mrs Isaac to fulfil her dream of becoming an author. I feel this would be an excellent idea for our World Book Day assembly in March...



As a school, we are truly blessed with incredible school grounds and it only felt like a natural progression for our connected curriculum to look at widening the use of these grounds. So...Miss Bell and Miss Griffiths jumped at the chance to start training to become Forest School Practitioners. During the next two years, we aim to develop our connected curriculum even further to become Forest Schools accredited. For further information about Forest School, please see: <https://forestschoollassociation.org/what-is-forest-school/>

### FOREST SCHOOL ETHOS



## Enriching

Since our last newsletter, you will have received a letter about clubs that take place at Elm Park. I just wanted to share with you the plethora of after school activities on offer for children at our school. This is in addition to the music lessons that take place during school time and the incredible Enrichment Afternoons the children have every Friday.

DAY	CLUB	YEAR	TIME	COST/ EQUIPMENT NEEDED
Monday	Multisport with Priority Sports	Years 1, 2 & 3	3.30 - 4.30	Please see separate letter for information on this club.
Monday	Football Club with Priority Sports	Years 3, 4 & 5	3.30 – 4.30	Please see separate letter for information on this club.
Tuesday	KS1 Art Club with Miss Dykes & Mrs Moore	Years 1 & 2	3.30 – 4.30	Club will start on Tuesday 1 February and run every Tuesday ( <i>except Tuesday 15 March</i> ) in Term 3 & 4 unless otherwise notified. <u>One off charge of £4.00 to be paid in advance online.</u>
Tuesday	Drama Club	Years 3 - 6	3.30 – 5.00	£7.50 a session. Please see separate letter or contact Tina Stewart directly on 07876 252287.
Wednesday	Y6 Football Club	Year 6	3.30 – 4.30	Please see separate letter for information on this club.
Thursday	KS2 Choir Club with Mrs Kidger	Years 3 - 6	3.30 – 4.15	Club will start on Thursday 3 February and run every Thursday ( <i>except Thursday 17 March</i> ) in Term 3 & 4 unless otherwise notified.
Thursday	KS2 Running Club with Mrs Lugg	Years 3 - 6	3.30 – 4.15	Club will start on Thursday 3 February and run every Thursday ( <i>except Thursday 17 March</i> ) in Term 3 & 4 unless otherwise notified.
Thursday	Lego Robotics	Years 5 – 6	3.30 – 4.30	Club will run every Thursday in Term 3 & 4 unless otherwise notified.

As the year progresses, the clubs and age ranges will change so that there really is something for everyone. I would like to thank our dedicated team of staff, who have given up their own time to run clubs free of charge for our children. This is above and beyond what is expected of any staff and I am incredibly grateful to them for enhancing our children's experiences.

## Achieving

### House Team News

It has been another bumper fortnight for house points with some huge totals being achieved. Well done to all the children for earning these by following our Golden Rules. Keep it up!

The house points so far are:

1<sup>st</sup> – Yellow – 3112 points

2<sup>nd</sup> – Blue – 2992 points

3<sup>rd</sup> – Red – 2788 points

4<sup>th</sup> – Green – 2668 points



### PE and Sports News

Next Friday afternoon, we will be holding this term's inter house sports competitions. Please could all children wear PE kits on the day (Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February). We are looking forward to seeing the children's sports skills and team work as they compete against each other to earn House Points.

### Covid Update:

As you will be more than aware, the Government has moved England into Plan A. Sadly, within South Gloucestershire, our Covid rates are still very high. We would like to ask you to continue to support us in keeping our children and staff well by wearing face masks just a little bit longer until South Gloucestershire rates decrease.

With grateful thanks from all of the staff and children at Elm Park.

### When should I get a test?

#### If your child has no symptoms:

Across the UK, if your child tests positive for Covid with a lateral flow test (LFT), there is no longer any need to book a PCR test to confirm that result.

You should **report your child's result online** or by calling 119, and **self-isolate** immediately. You will be contacted by the relevant tracing service so your contacts can be notified.

The guidance that positive LFTs don't need a confirmatory PCR will remain in place while Covid case levels are high. Under these conditions, the vast majority of people are extremely likely to have coronavirus.

People who are eligible for the **£500 test and trace payment** in England will be asked to take a PCR so they can access financial support.

#### If you have symptoms:

If you have Covid symptoms - **a cough, a fever or a loss of taste or smell** - you must take a PCR test as soon as possible, and self-isolate while you wait for the result.

## Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.

## Updated guidance on isolation and testing for confirmed cases (early release from isolation)

### How five-day isolation rule works in England

