

Elmstead Wood Primary School

April 2025 Newsletter

Dear Elmstead Wood Families

As the Spring turns to Summer, we reach the end of a truly energetic and productive term. It feels like only yesterday we were welcoming the children back after the winter break, and yet, here we are, looking back on a term filled with learning, laughter, and remarkable achievements.

This term, our pupils have continued to impress us with their enthusiasm and dedication. We've had numerous successful events this term including Years 3 and 4 taking part in the Bromley Schools Cross Country. Well done to all those who participated. It's a very challenging event and we are so proud of all the children who ran - some of whom were as young as 7 years-old.

We've also seen the flourishing of our school community through numerous events and initiatives. The Easter Fair will no doubt be a roaring success - a delightful afternoon of fun and fundraising, and the parent workshops, class assemblies and other community events have been invaluable in strengthening the partnership between home and school.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff, who tirelessly nurture and inspire our children. Their commitment to providing a stimulating and supportive learning environment is truly commendable. To our wonderful parents and carers, thank you for your continued support and collaboration. Your involvement is essential to our school's success. If you are interested in joining our Parent Council, please let me know.

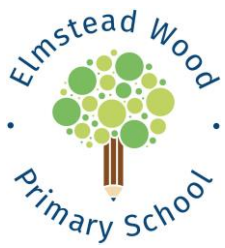
As we look forward to the Easter break, I hope you all have the opportunity to relax, recharge, and spend quality time with your loved ones. We return in the Summer Term, ready for more exciting learning opportunities and celebrations.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Easter.

Mrs C Lewis
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

4 th Apr	2.30pm PTA Easter Fair and start of Easter holidays
22 nd Apr	First Day of the Summer Term
12 th – 15 th May	Y6 SATS week
26 th May	Start of half term
2 nd June	INSET Day
3 rd June	First day back after half term
w/c 3 rd June	Y4 Timestables Check



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w/c 9 th June	Y1 Phonics Check
12 th June	Class Photographs
19 th June	Sports Day
16 th July	Y6 Production - afternoon
17 th July	Y6 Production - evening

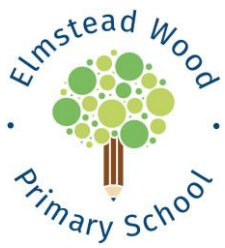
Reception

The children in reception have been working exceptionally hard this half term. They have been learning all about animals. We collected worms from the garden and looked after them in a wormery. We also observed caterpillars change into butterflies. It was very exciting!



We had a visit from the fire brigade. The children had a chance to squirt water out of the giant hose and try on the uniform.





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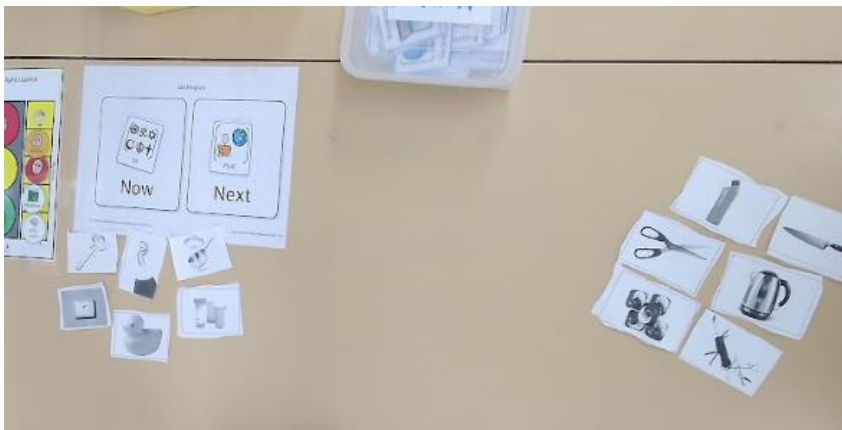
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In forestry, we investigated and explored. We looked for insects under logs, climbed trees and used natural materials to create our own strange creatures.



Year 1

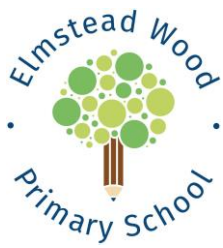
In Year 1 we have been looking at how we can be healthy. We thought about our diets and how we move our bodies, which help us to be healthy. We are able to show what is healthy and unhealthy and what is safe and unsafe. We shared why lifestyle choices are healthy and what we can do in our everyday lives to help us with this.



Year 2

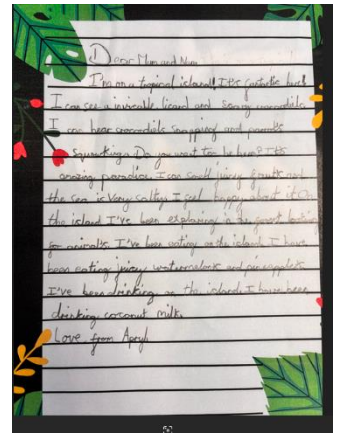
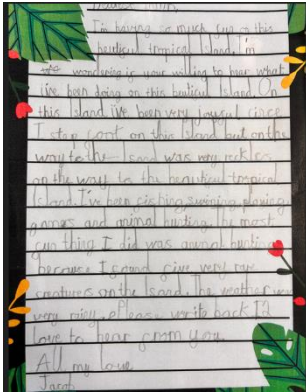


This half term, Year 2 have been reading "Grandad's Island" by Benji Davies. We have learned how to use commas in lists and apostrophes for contractions. We looked at the features of letters and practised writing as the characters in the story. We are really proud of our writing and are looking forward to displaying it in our classrooms.



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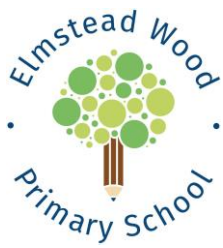
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Year 3 and Year 4

Year 3 and 4 have had a busy term learning lots of new and exciting things. Both Beech and Willow went swimming with all the children making progress in the water. It was great to see the children's confidence in the water develop over the last 10 weeks and hopefully they have learnt a skill which they will continue going forward. Elm class were lucky enough to have forestry with Ms Emma, taking their learning outside of the classroom including using nature as a way to help calm and relax as well as challenging themselves and overcoming fears.

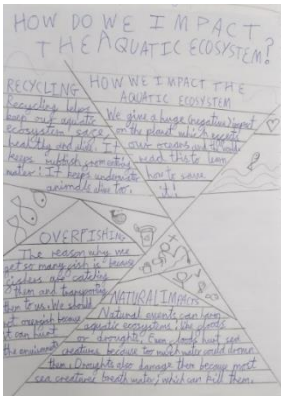
In DT, the children have been looking at making healthy pizzas. We looked at the different food groups and the eatwell plate, thinking about the importance of eating a balanced and varied diet. As well as this, we looked at food hygiene ensuring that we follow best practices when dealing with unprepared food, washing our hands when touching food as well as ensuring we clean up after ourselves as we cook. The children planned their pizzas, thinking about what ingredients they wanted to include and how they would like to design the pizza to make it appealing to the eye. We finished the unit by making and cooking our pizzas, and we were overall pleased with the results. We are looking forward to the new term, where we will continue our fantastic progress.



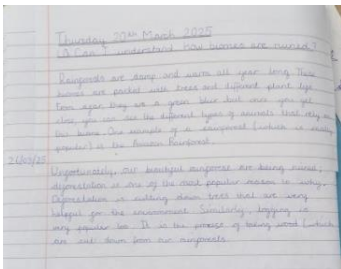
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Year 5 and Year 6



This half term, we have learnt about the six major biomes on our planet: woodlands, grasslands, rainforests, savannah, deserts and tundras. We learnt that biomes are areas around the world which share similar climate, soil type, amount of water and animals. We discovered how biomes can be damaged naturally or by humans which can have a lasting impact on the whole ecosystem. It is so important to try to conserve our biomes, particularly rainforests, as it prevents animal and plant life from going extinct.



Attendance

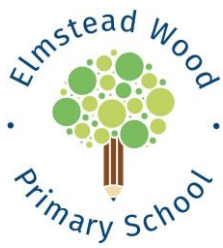
Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Attendance is a key priority for Elmstead Wood Primary School and our target for overall attendance this year is 96.5%. Good attendance underpins academic achievement and we want all of our children to achieve and succeed.

We will soon be sending out letters to parents of children whose attendance is falling below the Department for Education's minimum expectation of 96% attendance. If you would like to discuss any concerns regarding your child's attendance, please do contact me. We want to offer support early so that we can resolve any issues as quickly as possible.



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Thank you for supporting your child at school.
Mrs Arnold



Help your child to come to school on time:

- Get everything ready for school the night before.
- Have the same bedtime routines every night.
- Get up early enough every morning.
- Eat a good breakfast.
- Allow plenty of travel.
- Form good habits

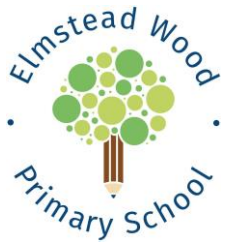
Children only get one chance to attend school and to take advantage of all we have to offer!
THEIR FUTURE IS IN YOUR HANDS...

PE/Sport

Children from Year 5/6 took part in a netball competition against other Bromley schools. They showed amazing teamwork, resilience and determination. Well done!

Year 1/2 had a fun morning out taking part in an Easter Bunny run. They participated with enthusiasm and perseverance. We were extremely proud of them.





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OPAL



Come rain or shine...

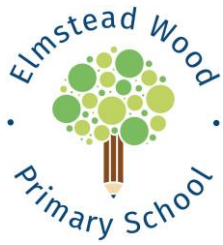
We would like **children** to be able to play outside in **all weathers** but this is dependent on the clothes and footwear they have in school. So that they can play happily they **MUST** have **named wellies** and a warm waterproof coat in school to enjoy these and other areas. Without wellies, your child will not be able to go on the field. We have outdoor wellie sheds for each class to keep them dry.

Loose parts is something that we heavily rely on for creating the OPAL environment. They can be natural materials like logs and stones or man made items such as tyres, crates, planks, plastic barrels, and cable wheels.

This month we will be collecting:

- Suitcases
 - Compost
 - Plastic barrels
 - Plastic buckets
- Buckets/Mops
Sand (For our sand pit)





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We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuous support.

The OPAL Team

The 'Theory of loose parts' (Nicholson 1971) says that the more moveable things there are in a play environment, the greater the number of possibilities there will be for invention, creation and imagination

Universal Free School Meals

The Mayor of London's office has confirmed that they are extending the Universal Free School Meals offer for the Academic Year 2024 / 25. However, if you are eligible to receive free school meals as per the criteria below, please do apply as this results in extra funding for the school.

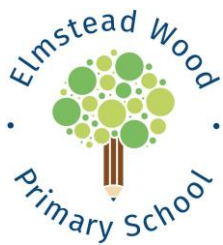
Parents can apply through the London Borough of Bromley link for Pupil Premium at regular intervals throughout the year. <https://www.bromley.gov.uk/FreeSchoolMeals>

To be eligible for Pupil Premium, families should be in receipt of the following:

- Income support
- Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (providing you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit), with a gross annual household income of no more than £16,190 (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs-HMRC)
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment received for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit, with a net annual household income of £7,400 or less (after tax and not including any other benefits you receive).

School Office Notices

- **Medication** - All children's medication should have been sent home at the end of term. If they are still needing this medication at school, it will need to be returned at the beginning of the school year. The school will be open on Friday 30th August between 1pm - 3pm please feel free to come along to school to hand over your child's medication and complete the relevant forms before school starts on Monday.
- **Contact details** - Please make sure the school office has 2 points of contacts for your children. It is part of our Safeguarding Policy that you have 2 contacts on Arbor. Remember to update us when



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you have changed your circumstances. Please contact us either by the school office on 020 8857 1504 or email admin@elmsteadwoodprimary.co.uk

- **Absence** - When reporting absences for your child please either contact the school office by 9 am on 020 8857 1504. You can also report this by email attendance@elmsteadwoodprimary.co.uk Please do not report absences on Class Dojo
- **Arbor** - Everyone should be able to log-in into arbor this system is to update any info regarding your child such as: Family, Guardian Contacts (all people that collect your children need to be on arbor) Medical Consents section (you will need to consent to your child attending local trips, photographs and many more
- Please ensure that all changes in collection arrangements for your child are phoned into the school office before 2:45pm.
- All paid school services must be paid for in advance (breakfast club, after school club). The school has credit control procedures in place for any arrears.
- If you need to book breakfast club or after school club on an ad hoc basis, please email the relevant club in advance. Payment on ParentPay must be made before your child attends and does not automatically notify the club that your child will be attending.
- Please could all late arrivals be signed in on the EntrySign in the entrance hall.
- If children are not collected by 3:30pm and the school has not received notification from a parent or guardian, they will be taken to the after school club. This is a chargeable service.

Flyers



Community Leaders Development Programme (MCLDP)

MOTTINGHAM MAN

Are you a man in the Mottingham community? Do you want to boost your leadership qualities?
Do you have a role or purpose you would like to fulfil? Would you like some tips to get there?

Then please come and join us on this **free** course. We will support you reach your goals, with skills and ideas for community leadership. NCBI have been working with men, young men and women for over 20 years. Come and join us for this **not-to-be-missed** amazing opportunity. Women are welcome to join us too. **Places are limited so book now to secure your place. To book, scan the QR code or visit the website below. These free workshops will be at Elmstead Wood Primary School from 6.30pm to 9.00pm on the following dates:**



WE WILL DELIVER:

SESSION 1
22nd April
Identity

SESSION 2
6th May
Growth

SESSION 3
20th May
Leadership

SESSION 4
3rd June
Action

Website: www.ncbi.org.uk
Elmstead Wood
Primary School,
Castlecombe Road,
Bromley, SE9 4AT

Contact **June** on 07958 750200
Email: info@ncbi.org.uk

