



Elmbridge Primary School Newsletter 24th January 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers

Can I start by saying a big thank you to all our parents and carers who have enquired about Mr Tharia or indeed sent messages and cards which have been passed on. He has been truly touched by all your best wishes and has asked us to pass on his thanks. He is hoping to pop into school in the week before half term before having a phased return in term 4.

It has already been a busy start to term 3 and you will see reports in this week's newsletter of the amazing 'Young Voices' concert as well as the annual Panathlon event held at Gloucester Academy and the Year 1 trip to Pizza Express. We are always so proud of all our children who represent the school brilliantly at events like these, so a big well done to everyone involved. It was also fantastic to see all of the children have a go at the 'Look whos' Talking' competition and a particular well done to the pupils who got through to the next round.

School uniform

In the last newsletter we asked for your help in reducing our lost property by writing your child's name in all their uniform and other items they bring to school. It was great to see some children proudly showing us names on labels! Please, if you haven't already done so, check that all items are named so they can be returned if lost. We have also had to ask some pupils not to wear large bows in their hair to school and to remove artificial nails too. Our school uniform policy sets out what is acceptable to wear to school—it can be read [here](#).

Finally, can we once again thank all our parents, carers, staff and wider community in supporting the school since our return after the Christmas break.

Kind regards

Phill Riddle & Manda Holliday (Assistant Heads)

Online Safety

It is really important that parents and carers are aware of what their children are viewing online. In school, we will occasionally hear children talk about things they have seen online that are clearly not appropriate for their age. The NSPCC have information about keeping children safe online—Please click the link below and you can also talk to the class teachers for advice.

[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

Attendance

Our attendance this term is currently
96.12%

If your child is going to be off school due to illness, you must call the school absence line **every day that they are off before 9am** to update us on your child's condition.

Remember:

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

Young Voices 2025

What a fantastic time we all had at this year's Young Voices concert! The biggest choir taken to this event to date, of 69 children from years 4,5 & 6, along with 8 enthusiastic staff members and parent helpers, danced and sung their hearts out to some fantastic medleys! We were so lucky with our fantastic seats, we could clearly see the parents and carers having equally as good a time during the rave as us! Well done to all the children involved, and parents and carers for your support on the evening. We can't wait to do it all again next year!



Look Who's Talking

During the past two weeks the children in key stages one and two have all participated in the first round of the 'Look Who's Talking' oracy competition. This is an annual event run by the GSP (Gloucester Schools Partnership). All children were asked to create a talk either about an animal or about something that is important to them and deliver it to their class group. All of the children spoke fantastically! From each class, one child was chosen to deliver their talk again, but this time to a much wider audience. These children were:

Class 1 - Henry

Class 2 - Alfie

Class 3 - Samanvi

Class 4 - Isla

Class 5 - Arwa

Class 6 - Teddy

Class 7 - Joseph

Class 8 - Delilah

Class 9 - Lea

Class 10 - Teslim

Class 11 - Adam

Class 12 - Zayn

Class 13 - Lewis

Class 14 - Griff

Class 15 - Shehyah

Class 16 - Fawzan

Class 17 - Yunus

Class 18 - Amira

From these talks, 3 winners were chosen to enter the next stage of the competition which will take place during the week beginning 3rd February. Our congratulations go to; Henry and his fantastic talk about robotic vacuum cleaners, Lewis and his knowledgeable talk about 'Praying Mantis' and to Adam who spoke so enthusiastically about Velociraptors. We wish you every success during the next round and know that you will be great!



Contact us
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Panathlon Event at Gloucester Academy

On Thursday 16th January, a selection of KS1 and KS2 children took part in a Panathlon at Gloucester Academy.

All of the children had a fantastic time playing a range of activities and were very proud to show off their medals when they got back to school!

Well done to all those involved!



Pizza Express Trip

Class 1 had a fantastic time in Pizza Express at Gloucester Quays on Wednesday! They learnt all about where the first pizza was made and the ingredients used to create a Margarita pizza. They then made their very own pizza which they thoroughly enjoyed eating! Some of the children tried different toppings and had a great food quiz! Class 2 and 3 are very much looking forward to going too in the next few months!

Thank you to everyone who helped on the trip.



Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year is also known as Lunar New Year or the Spring Festival and is the main Chinese festival of the year. This year it is being celebrated in the Year of the Snake which is one of the 12 different animals of the Chinese calendar.

During the Chinese New Year celebration, people participate in many traditional activities such as the lion and dragon dances. Traditional gifts are given in small red envelopes filled with "lucky money". These envelopes are given to children by their elder family and friends who get together for large feasts during the festival.

There are a few ways to say 'Happy New Year' in Chinese. One popular phrase is Gong Xi Fa Cai which means congratulations and wishing the person joy.

Wishing all the families a happy Chinese New Year.

Parking

We have once again received a number of complaints from local residents about people blocking driveways or parking inconsiderately at drop-off and pick-up times. **Please** could we remind parents/carers to park safely and legally and ensure local residents have access to their properties at all time.

Those of you who use the Sisson Road entrance will have noticed that the yellow no parking zone lines are very worn. We have been asking for them to be repainted for well over a year now—it may help if parents contact parking@gloucestershire.gov.uk to express concern that this has not yet been done.



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Illnesses

This time of year particularly, children do come down with winter illnesses such as coughs and colds. For the most part, these children can attend school, where we can give medicines if required, or allow children to stay in from the cold if parents/cares wish. Children should, however, stay at home if they have a high temperature, until it goes away.

There are some illness that we would like you to tell us about if your child has them (see table below)—this is so we can alert the wider school community as to the presence of the illness.

Chicken Pox	Return when spots have crusted over
Measles/German measles	Return 4 days after rash onset
Scarlet fever	Return 24 hrs from start of anti-biotics
E coli	Return 24 hrs after last bout
Whooping cough	Return 48 hrs from start of anti-biotics
Hepatitis A	Return 7 days after onset of jaundice

Pharmacy First

The Pharmacy First service enables community pharmacies to care for 7 common conditions. The service is designed to free up GP appointments for patients who need them most and will give people quicker and more convenient access to safe and high quality healthcare. It includes the supply of appropriate medicines for the 7 common conditions below, aiming to address health issues before they get worse.

Middle ear infections	1 to 17 years
Impetigo	1 year and over
Infected insect bites	1 year and over
Shingles	18 years and over
Sinusitis	12 years and over
Sore throat	5 years and over
Uncomplicated urinary tract infections	Women 16-64 years

All 105 of the county's pharmacies have signed up to provide the service, which may help if you or your child has a condition that can be treated at a pharmacy, rather than waiting for a GP appointment. You can find a pharmacy in Gloucester at [Pharmacies near Gloucester - NHS](#)



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Wellbeing

We use the 5 Ways to Wellbeing to support our mental health and wellbeing in school.



Can you talk to your children about what these mean? How can we all include some of these ideas to support us?

A message from the PTFA

After a hugely successful 2024, we are looking forward to a fantastic 2025!

We are currently looking for carnival games—if you have any that you are looking to donate then please drop them off at the hub. We would also be grateful for any volunteers—if you are interested in helping out, please email ptfa@elmbridgeprimaryschoolpta.onmicrosoft.com

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for all our brilliant upcoming events in 2025!

Diary Dates

Tuesday 28th January	Year 3 Trip to Corinium Museum
Wednesday 5th February	Year 1 trip to Pizza Express
Monday 10th February	Year 2-6 Elmbridge Has Got Talent Auditions
Tuesday 11th February	Internet Safety Day
Wednesday 12th February	Year 2 Mosque Trip
Friday 14th February	Year 2-6 Elmbridge Has Got Talent Finals
Friday 14th February	End of Term 3
Monday 17 th - Friday 21 st February	School Holiday
Term 4: Monday 24 th February - Friday 11 th April 2025	
Monday 24 th February	Inset Day - school closed for pupils
Tuesday 25 th February	Start of Term



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