



Elmbridge Primary School Newsletter 9th September 2022

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome back after the summer break and I hope you managed to make the most of the holidays. Yesterday was a sad day on hearing the news that Her Majesty the Queen has died. We will keep you informed of any potential changes to school as soon as we know.

I would like to welcome any new children and new staff to our school and look forward to our new reception children starting next week. Staff will try to make themselves available at the end of each day in the playground but if you prefer a more private discussion, then please feel free to make an appointment at the office. For ease of reference, I have attached a staff list for this academic year in order to aid communication. Most issues are often resolved through communicating with the class teacher in the first instance.

Teachers will have sent you a year group welcome letter outlining expectations, curriculum coverage and homework for this term. More detailed curriculum overviews and plans can be found on the school [website](#). A calendar of key events and term dates for the year will be issued next week. You will have also received a list of clubs on offer; please return preferences asap. Please contact Manda Holliday if there are any issues or questions with regard to clubs. Formal parents' evenings will be scheduled for November but there will also be an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and classroom assistants more informally at a 'tea with the team' (Year 1 to Year 6) event on **Wednesday 21st September, from 3:15 until 4pm** in the respective infant and junior halls (separate letter sent).

Finally, I fully appreciate how busy it is at either end of the school day so please be mindful of space—please avoid congregating too close to the school buildings; if you are waiting for your child on the junior site, please wait on the playground rather than the back of the school by the cloakrooms. To avoid any accidents, please do not let your child ride bicycles or scooters either.

Best wishes

Glen Tharia — Head Teacher

Online Safety

The internet is a fantastic place for children to learn, create and have fun, but they may occasionally have to deal with a variety of sometimes challenging issues. These may include cyberbullying, the pressure to take part in sexting, encouragement to self-harm, viewing pornography, along with various others.

If you have a concern or question about online safety, please contact Mrs Toppin who will be more than happy to help!



Attendance

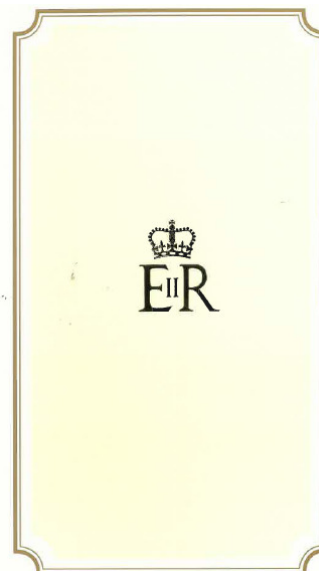
Throughout the year, we will keep you updated with our school attendance. Remember...

- Attend regularly
- Be punctual
- Be ready to learn

**EVERY SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS!**

Letter of Thanks

We have today received a very poignant letter from Buckingham Palace to thank the children for the wonderful letters and pictures they sent Her Majesty the Queen during her Jubilee celebrations; we thought you would love to see what we have received especially after yesterday's sad news. A copy of the letter received attached for those who would like to see it.



Reading Record

Children have brought home a 'Reading Record' this week. Please use the booklet to record reading done at home. Each time your child reads, please populate the boxes consecutively (you do not need to miss out a box if they haven't read that day!). We cannot stress how important it is for children to read on a regular basis and would like your child to read at least 3 times per week. Research shows that regular reading has a direct link to educational achievement.

Please do not use it for holiday requests or reasons for absence (holidays will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances).

School Meals

It is important to notify the school if your child will be late for any reason and to indicate whether they require a school meal. Hot dinners are £2.36 per day payable on-line using ParentPay. We are unable to accept cash for school dinners, school trips and music tuition unless there are **exceptional circumstances**.

All payments should be made online via ParentPay or by PayPoint. Should you require an activation letter for either service could you please contact the school office. If you do not have internet access at home, we are able to provide a computer at school for this service. Any other monies such as collections for charity etc. may be donated by cash.

Parent Governor Vacancies

We have three vacancies for parent governors. Governors play a vital role in making sure every child receives the best possible education and their responsibilities cover all aspects of school life including finance, buildings management, health & safety, personnel and monitoring the curriculum. If you have the time to commit and would like to support our school more information is available for prospective governors on the Gloucestershire County Council website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schoolsnet/governors or please contact Carole Grocott, Clerk to the Governors, via the school office to arrange a visit. Parent governors are elected for a four year term of office. A separate email is being sent out today with a covering letter and a nomination form. The closing date for nominations is 9 a.m. Tuesday 20th September.

Communication

Please let the office know any change to personal details/contact numbers as soon as possible. There is a form available on the [website](#) to notify us of any change of circumstances or, alternatively, collect from the office. You will have an opportunity to check data collection sheets at the parent consultations in November. We try very hard to inform parents regularly about what's going on at the school and issue a newsletter to parents every two weeks.

Paper letters sometimes go astray on the way home and we are increasingly aware of the environmental impact and substantial costs involved in photocopying so we are mainly sending letters out electronically through our ParentMail® service. This service is very useful and enables us to notify you by email and text message in the event of an emergency school closure or cancellation of a club/event etc. If you have any issues with ParentMail please contact the school office. Copies of letters and other school information can also be found on our school [website](#).

MMR & Flu Vaccine Update / Reminder

To give your child the best protection against Measles, Mumps and Rubella a child needs two doses of the MMR vaccine. If your child has not had a second MMR as part of pre-school vaccines, I would encourage you to do this now by contacting your GP/Practice Nurse.

This year the flu immunisation programme is being extended nationally to include all primary aged children from Reception to Year 6. The vaccine is given via a nasal spray (not an injection) and will be delivered by trained NHS staff who will be in school on from 17th to 20th October. A letter, information leaflet and consent form has been sent home with the children this week.

Further information can be accessed from the following website

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/vaccination-schedule-age-checklist.aspx>

Asthma/ Medical Information

If your child is currently on our asthma register, you will soon receive an asthma card for you to complete and return to school. Also, existing Health Care Plans will be sent out for those children who currently have them for you to check/amend details. In the meantime where necessary, please ensure that your child keeps an inhaler with them and that you supply us with a spare one (labelled) for the class teacher in case of emergencies. **Could I ask all parents and carers to alert us to any new medical issues, including asthma, as soon as possible so that the school records can be updated.**

If your child requires to take a medicine during the school day, please hand these into the office reception hub. Office staff can administer these medicines in agreement with the parent/carer.

Reminders

Children are encouraged to bring their own water bottle into school labelled with their name— they are able to keep their water bottle in class to use to stay hydrated. It is helpful if bottles are filled with fresh water at home for the start of the day, as queues can form at water fountains first thing; pupils can then refill when necessary.

Please ensure that your **child's name is clearly written** on their uniform, PE kit, coat and any other item of clothing they bring in to school. We do end up collecting a lot of un-claimed lost property, which will either be donated to the PTA or placed in our charity clothes bin. We would much rather relocate this to pupils, particularly as it is costly to replace lost items.

Diary Dates

Thursday 15th September	PTA Nearly New Sale - School jumpers & cardigans
Wednesday 21st September	Tea with the Team (Y1–Y6)
w/ Monday 10th October	Book Fair - Junior Crush Hall 3.30pm to 4.00pm
Tuesday 3rd October	Year 4 trip to Gloucester (Romans)
Thursday 6th October	Year 2 trip to Gloucester Cathedral
Thursday 20th October	End of Term 1
Friday 21st October	<i>Inset Day—school closed for pupils</i>
Monday 31st October	Start of Term
Thursday 3rd November	PTA Firework Display (5.00pm to 7.00pm)

Please note—additional Diary dates will be updated once all event dates have been finalised

Letters sent home this week:

Newsletters from this academic year are also on the website under the 'Parents' tab. Any letters, including those sent via ParentMail, are available as paper copies in the school office.

5 Sept - Important reminder concerning pupil absence

7 Sept - Gloucester lottery

7 Sept - iRock music lessons

8 Sept - Tapestry issues

8 Sept - Important site safety update

8 Sept - "Tea with the Team"

9 Sept - Caterlink soup option

8/9 Sept - Year Group welcome letters



PTA News

Our next PTA meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th September, a Zoom link will be sent to all next week.

Thursday 15th September we will be holding a 'Nearly New Sale' of School jumpers and cardigans. With the increased cost of living being faced by us all, this would be a great opportunity for some significant savings on the cost of school uniform. The sale will be held on the Junior playground.

We will be holding a Rags 2 Riches collection on Tuesday 4th October. Please bring in any unwanted clothes, bags or shoes over the coming weeks and the school office will pass them on for you.

Watch this space for upcoming news on events to be held throughout the year.

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It is important to notify the school if your child will be late for any reason and to indicate whether they require a school meal. Hot dinners are £2.36 per day payable on-line using ParentPay. We are unable to accept cash for school dinners, school trips and music tuition unless there are **exceptional circumstances**. All payments should be made online via ParentPay or by PayPoint. Should you require an activation letter for either service could you please contact the school office. If you do not have internet access at home, we are able to provide a computer at school for this service. Any other monies such as collections for charity etc. may be donated by cash.

Contact us

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01452 523632

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