



# Elmbridge Primary School Newsletter 21st November 2025

Dear Parents & Carers

We would like to thank you all for your support in attending the recent parent consultations and, hopefully, you found them useful. We believe that children thrive most when the adults in their lives work together. A strong home-school partnership not only supports academic success but also nurtures children's confidence, wellbeing, and sense of belonging.

We can't believe it's only 4 weeks until the end of term as we look forward to all the festive activities, which starts with the Christmas Fayre on 29th November, organised by the PTFA; please double check the last page of this newsletter to ensure you have the right dates for all of our Christmas events.

We welcome Mrs Jayakumar and Mrs Sasikumar to our team of midday supervisors.

Have a lovely weekend!

Glen Tharia & Manda Holliday — Co-Head Teachers

## PTFA Christmas Fayre next Saturday 29th November

Our annual Christmas Fayre takes place next Saturday, 12-3pm.

There will be lots of lovely Christmas stalls, loads of fun Christmas activities, homemade festive cakes and treats, tombola, Santa's grotto and lots more!

We hope to see you there!

### Online Safety

WhatsApp? Discord? Snapchat? TikTok?  
Does your child use one of these apps?  
Do you know who they are communicating with?  
Do you know who is part of their 'group'?  
Do you know if the people they are talking to are really who they say they are?

### Attendance

Our attendance this academic year is currently

96.38%

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

## Cross Country Championships

What a brilliant day yesterday at the City Cross Country Championships! All 33 children ran exceptionally well in the very cold weather. Elmbridge Year 5's were awarded a silver medal and Year 6 boys got gold! There were some fantastic individual performances by the runners. Some of them have now been invited to an intensive running programme with Cheryl Stennet of Gloucester Schools Sports Network to hopefully go through to the county championships! Well done to all.

Mrs Howard

## PTFA Fireworks Display

Thanks again to everyone who came to our fireworks display on 6th November. We now have the final total amount raised: **£4,513.00!!**

All funds raised will go towards some fantastic projects for the school. Thank you!

## New Performing Arts/Stage area for Reception

Over the last few months we have been working hard to refurbish the Reception Outdoor Learning Area, specifically the Performing Arts/Stage area.

With work finally complete, on Thursday we held a 'Grand Opening' with actors from the newly refurbished Kings Theatre in Gloucester, performing a snippet from their upcoming performance of Peter Pan.

We are so very grateful to members of the Hardwicke Players who gave up their time to come and entertain the children.

Many other companies and individuals also require our thanks;

- Barnwood Ltd, Barnwood Rd, Gloucester who donated the wood.
- Maddox Maguire-Carpenter & Kitchen Fitter (07359 700489-please quote Elmbridge School for a discounted rate) and Guy Howes from Barnwood Ltd who gave up their free time to come and build the stage for us.
- Gloucester Crown Decorating Centre, Eastern Avenue, Gloucester who provided the paint. (Please note quote Elmbridge School staff for a 20% discount)
- The PTFA who paid for the decking.
- Wickes Gloucester for donation of a new Keter storage box- for dressing up and musical instrument storage.

We hope the children will have great fun performing on the new stage!

The Reception Team and Mrs Rowland-Evans



Contact us  
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## Express Yourself!

Year 2 have worked really hard over the past few weeks to create their own 3D bird structure. We think they've done an amazing job!



### Art challenge for home:

Can you have a go at creating your own winter owl picture?



## Active Leaders

*Written by Max and Toby*

### What we do!

We play with Year 1—Year 4 and sometimes we play with Reception. These are some games we play: tag, rats and rabbits, golden ruler and loads more. There are lots of us patrolling every playground—you will normally see us in orange or yellow high-vis jackets and 'Helping Hands' wear blue high-vis jackets.

### Why do we do Active Leaders?

We do it because some children need help to be active and some people stand in a corner and are lonely and inactive and we want them to be active instead.

### When we do it

Active Leaders have a rotation every day. Also we have extra Active Leaders for pupils with extra needs.

## Volunteers

Thank you to all of the volunteers who supported in removing the weeds and soil beds - everyone made a great start in removing the soil so that the new bike shed can be installed later this year!



## Children in Need 2025

It was great to see all of the children enjoying Children in Need last Friday, coming to school in non-uniform and taking part in fun activities arranged by their teachers. Pudsey visited all of the children in the morning assemblies as a special surprise.

Thanks to Newent Rotary Club for providing the school with all of the Children in Need items for sale and arranging Pudsey's special visit!

A huge thank you to everyone who brought in a donation and/or purchased Children in Need items from the school. We have raised a fantastic total of **£788.82!**



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## Active Travel—Park and Stride

We have decided to tell children not to choose the Park and Stride option on Travel Tracker for now. After a trial period, we have found it difficult to quality assure children's responses and it has become clear that lots of children are choosing Park and Stride as an option when they have not been walking for the required 10 minutes. As our ultimate goal is to encourage children to travel to school in an active way, we feel that allowing children to carry on choosing this option when they are perhaps not travelling to school in this way is taking away from the importance of the message we are trying to share with them. With our walking bus in the planning phase, we are aiming for children to be able to select Park and Stride as their mode of transport when they have used the walking bus to get to school. We look forward to contacting you when this is up and running. If you are parking further away from school and walking with your child for at least 10 minutes, please can you let your child's class teacher know so they can pass it on to the Creating Active Schools team. We will then allow your child to continue selecting the Park and Stride option as we will know this is a genuine selection.

It has been great to see the children be so enthusiastic about earning their Active Travel badges and we hope to see more children earn these badges when our walking bus and bike and scooter storage and library is up and running! In the meantime, if your child is walking, cycling, scooting, driving or using public transport to get to school, they will still be able to select these options on the Travel Tracker. We hope you can understand our reasons behind this and we look forward to sharing the next stage of our Active Travel project with you!

The Creating Active Schools team

## Cut your Carbon Campaign

We are still running the Cut your Carbon campaign throughout November. It would be great if as many of you as possible could get involved, even if you do just one of the six challenges. Please talk to your child/ children so they know the ones you have completed.



### Challenges:

- **Cool it-** three washes dropping by 10 degrees (or washing at 30 degrees which some of you may already be doing)
- **Ditch the Drive-** three active journeys (this can be included within the active travel to school)
- **Drop It Like It's Hot-** drop the heating temperature by 1 degree for a week
- **Veggie Vibes-** three plant-based meals across the month
- **Have a Device-Free Day-** one day with non-essential devices off
- **Meal Plan-et-** plan meals, shop smart, waste less

You may already do some of these in which case let your child/ children know so it can be included within our schools data. Thank you for you continued support and involvement.



Contact us  
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## Diary Dates

Thursday 27th November	Year 2 Multiskills Trip to Barnwood Park School
Friday 28th November	Year 5 Trip to Black Country Living Museum
Saturday 29th November	PTFA Christmas Fayre—Junior Site (12-3pm)
Tuesday 9th December	Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 9th December	Year 4 Christmas Production—Junior Hall 6.30pm
Tuesday 9th December	Year 1 Christmas Production—Infant Hall 9.30am
Wednesday 10th December	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 10th December	Year 1 Christmas Production—Infant Hall 9.30am
Wednesday 10th December	Year 4 Christmas Production—Junior Hall 6.30pm
Thursday 11th December	Reception Christmas Production—Infant Hall 9.30am
Thursday 11th December	Year 5 & 6 Carol Concert—Junior Hall 2pm
Friday 12th December	Reception Christmas Production—Infant Hall 9.30am
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 Christmas Party - Junior Hall
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2 Christmas Singing - Infant Hall 2.30pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 Open Door Christmas Carols 2.45pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 Christmas Party - Junior Hall
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 and 2 Panto Trip Roses Theatre
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Christmas Party - Junior Hall
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 4 Christmas Party - Junior Hall
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Party
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>End of Term 2 - Non Uniform/Christmas Jumper Day</b>
<b>Monday 22nd December— Friday 2nd January</b>	<b>School Holiday</b>
<b>Monday 5th January</b>	<b>Start of Term</b>
Tuesday 13th January	Year 3 Trip to Gloucester Museum
Wednesday 14th January	Year 1 Trip to Pizza Express
Thursday 15th January	School Census Day
Thursday 15th January	Young Voices Concert, Resorts World Arena
Wednesday 4th February	Year 1 Trip to Pizza Express
Monday 9th February	Year 2-6 Elmbridge Has Got Talent Auditions



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