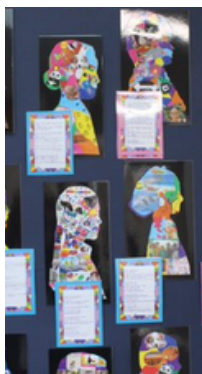


FEBRUARY 2024

HEADTEACHER NEWSLETTER

Spring Term 1 2024



TOP NEWS

Personal Development Curriculum

Parent Events

Swimming

Message from Mrs Leith

After two very long half terms in Autumn, the first half of the shorter Spring term has flown by.

As you are already aware, the Gipsy Hill Federation has gone through some major changes recently and we are pleased that we now have a new governing body in place. Our new chair of Governors, Ese Oyeghe, wrote to you all recently to introduce herself and I am sure that like me, you will be keen to get to know her over the next half term. In her letter she referred to the election of a parent governor. More information on this will be shared with you but please can I take this opportunity to ask that all parents and carers, in our Elm Wood family, take the time to vote for their chosen candidate. This is so that we can ensure that the the right representative is elected onto the board of governors for our school.

Class workshare assemblies have already started to take place this term and I look forward to seeing lots of you at these assemblies in the near future.

As always, please can I thank you for your continued support this term. The children in our Elm Wood family are very lucky to have parents and carers who all want the very best for our school and for all of our families.

THANK
YOU

Mrs Leith

Dates for the diary...

Please see more information on **Parent Events** on the second page of this newsletter



Cass Photos - **09.02.24**



Friends of Elm Wood Chinese New Year Cake Sale - **09.02.24**

February Half term - **12.02.24 to 16.02.24**

School Closed for INSET Day - 19.02.24

Children return to school - **20.02.24**

Dental Program - **26.02.24**

Bikeability (Years 3 and 4) - **29.02.24 & 01.03.24**

World Book Day - **07.03.24**

Parents Evening - **07.03.24**



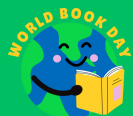
Vision Screening for Reception - **08.03.24**

Ramaden Celebrations - **11.03.24**

Neuro-diversity celebration week - week beginning 18.03.24

Bikeability (Year 5) - **18.03.24**

FOE Spring Fair - **22.03.24**



Personal Development

Feedback from our recent parent survey informed us that parents and carers would like to understand more about our Personal Development Curriculum.

Through our Personal Development Curriculum we encourage each child to become personally, emotionally, socially and physically effective, to lead healthy, safe and fulfilled lives; To become confident, independent and responsible young people who are able to make informed and responsible choices and decisions throughout their lives.

For more information on what our Personal Development Curriculum looks like please click on our Elm Wood Promises below to access our school Website.

[To show kindness and respect](#)

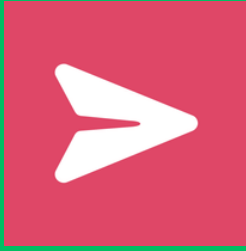
[To develop resilience and perseverance](#)

[To aim for excellence and success](#)



Learning Updates

Each class teacher uploads weekly learning updates on **Weduc**. Please follow this link to access these updates for your child's class.



Please contact the school office if you need assistance to log into Weduc.

Important message!

Please can we remind all parents and carers that **school finishes at 15.30**. Children who are collected late from school must be supervised by a staff member. Whilst a staff member is supervising children they are not able to complete key aspects of their role.

If you are struggling to collect your child on time please do speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team.



Swimming

This term the children in Year 4 have started their swimming lessons at Crystal Palace Swimming Pool.

They were very excited to start these lessons and they come back to school every week with huge smiles on their faces.

Learning to swim is a key life skill which forms part of the Physical Education Curriculum for the children in Year 4, 5 and 6.

Please can I take this opportunity to thank the parents and cares who support Year 4 with the journey to and from swimming in week.



Attendance

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving children the best possible start in life.

The aim should be to attend 100% of the time.

Children who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and therefore make less progress than expected.

Please support your child to achieve their very best by ensuring they come to school every day and ontime!

Click [here](#) for more information on school attendance.



Once again our fantastic team of parents and carers, who make up the Friends of Elm Wood, have been working hard to support the school.

The Reception team are delighted with the new mud kitchens and the children are excited to use these in their outdoor learning.

We have also received so many donations of toys,, books and resources that are being used throughout the school to support learning.

If you donated an item to the Friends of Elm Wood I would like to take this opportunity to thank you too!

Thank you!



School Dinners: Parents Tasting Session

We are extremely lucky at Elm Wood as we have a school chef who really cares about the children in our Elm Wood Family and she works hard to ensure that the meals that she cooks, with her team, are nutritious and tasty for the children to eat.

Children regularly tell me that they really enjoyed the hot meal that has been provided for them in school.

I believe that it is key that as parents you are able to sample the school dinners that are provided for your children every day.

We would like to invite you all to taste test the school dinners on 23.02.24 during the Parent Event linked to supporting your child at home with Mathematics.

We hope that you are able to join us!

DELICIOUS

Parent Events

09.02.24 at 9.30

[Supporting your child at home: Reading Focus](#)
All parents/carers of children in Year 1 to Year 6

23.02.24 at 9.30

[Supporting your child at home: Mathematics Focus](#)
All parents/carers of children in Year 1 to Year 6

08.03.24 at 9.30

[Online Safety](#)
All parents/carers

22.03.24 at 9.30

[Curriculum Update](#)
All parents/carers

Please follow this link to access this information on our website: [Parent Events](#)