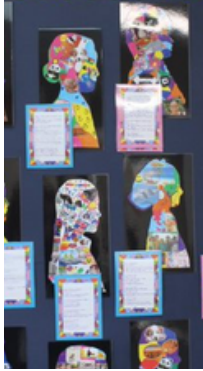




Elm Wood
Primary School

MARCH 2026



HEADTEACHER NEWSLETTER

Spring Term 2, 2026

TOP NEWS

Celebrating Music at Elm Wood

Democracy Day

Year 6 Spring Fair



Message from Mrs Leith

This term has been short but incredibly busy! On 05.03.26, we celebrated World Book Day—an annual event that encourages a love of reading, highlights authors and illustrators, and promotes literacy as an essential skill. Throughout the week, the children enjoyed a range of workshops and activities designed to foster and celebrate our shared love of reading. As always, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the FOE for their invaluable support in organising many of the events that helped make the celebrations so successful.



At Elm Wood, our Elm Wood Promises are at the heart of everything we do. We celebrate them in our assemblies and through the way we speak, learn, and work together as a supportive Elm Wood family.



Thank you to all parents and carers for continuing to ensure that every member of staff at Elm Wood is treated with kindness and respect. As a school, we do not tolerate inappropriate communication in any form. We will always take the necessary steps to ensure that all members of our Elm Wood family feel safe, supported, and respected at all times.

Mrs Leith

Dates for the Diary



27.03.26
School Closes at 14.00 for the Easter Holidays

30.03.26 to 10.04.26
School Closed for the Easter Holidays

13.04.26
Children return to school

11.05.26 to 14.05.26
Year 6 SATs week

25.05.26 to 29.05.26
School closed for May Half Term

03.07.26
School Closed for Inset Day

17.07.26
School Closes at 2pm for the Summer Holidays



Please remember to visit the calendar on the **Weduc** for all key dates.

Please use this QR code or follow these links to access term dates 2025 – 2026 and 2026 – 2027



Spring Concert

We recently held our annual Spring Concert at Elm Wood.

Children who learn to play musical instruments at school from Years 4 to 6 were invited to perform at the concert.

Our School Choir and School Band also performed at the event.



I think this year's concert was even better than last year's!

The concert was enjoyed by all members of our Elm Wood Family who attended.

I would like to congratulate all children who performed individually or as part of a group as they all performed so confidently.



Thank you to the Elm Wood Music Team who organised this event!



Year 5 Choir singing at the Royal Festival Hall

This week some members of the school choir took part in the Lambeth Music Service's annual singing extravaganza with *Folk Tales*, a vibrant celebration of songs and stories from around the world.

This amazing event took place at the Royal Festival Hall and was enjoyed by all who attended.

The concert featured many children from all over Lambeth singing songs whilst being supported by a live band and a team of vocal leaders.



The children from the choir represented Elm Wood brilliantly, bringing their talent and passion to every song. It was a wonderful evening, celebrating music in the community!

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 messages!

- Please ensure that all **bikes and scooters** are collected at the end of each Term. Any bikes or scooters that are left on school grounds at the end of this term (27.03.26) will be removed and disposed of.
- Please ensure that you collect any **Lost Property** at the end of each term as uncollected items will be donated to FOE, charity or removed from school and disposed of.
- **Parent Fines for Missing School:** Fines will be considered when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons. From August 2024, the fine for school absences will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days. In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Democracy Day

This week, our pupils had the exciting opportunity to learn about democracy-on-Democracy Day through a visit from Deputy Mayor and local Councillor Christine Banton. Hearing directly from an expert helped make the concept of democracy more engaging and meaningful, giving pupils a clearer understanding of how local and national decisions are made.



We created a mock Polling Station where pupils learned about elections, voting, and the power of using their voices. This hands-on activity aimed to build their confidence in participating in democratic processes and helped them recognise the real impact Parliament and local government can have on their everyday lives.



A key part of this event was our commitment to pupil empowerment. Before planning the day, we asked pupils which activities they most wanted adults to organise. Their choices shaped the event, ensuring it reflected their interests and supported their learning in a way that felt relevant and meaningful.

We created a mock Polling Station where pupils learned about elections, voting, and the power of using their voices. Children then voted to choose someone to be their Prime Minister & Deputy Prime Minister for the day, in the summer term.

More information about the responsibilities these children will be given and the results of this election will be announced after the Easter break.

Elm Wood Prime Minister Election	
Write one X in the box next to the person you think should be our Elm Wood Prime Minister for one day.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Democracy day 2026



Great Fire of London

This term the children in Year 2 have been learning all about the Great Fire of London.

The children have had lots of fun learning about the Great Fire and they even climbed to the top of the monument in a recent school trip.



The children all made models of the houses from 1666 and many of these houses were used in our very own reinactment of the Great Fire at School.

The children watched (from a safe distance) the fire spread through the model houses just as it spread through the houses in 1666.



Thank you to Mr Richardson for being on hand to ensure that everyone was safe!

Talented Staff Members

Ms Barragan has recently had some of her amazing artwork published.



Well done Ms Barragan!

Year 6 Spring Fair

The children in Year 6 demonstrated excellent teamwork and worked as fantastic entrepreneurs to create and sell items for our Spring fair.

The event was organised to raise money for the year groups end of year activities.

The children, along with volunteers from Friends of Elm Wood and the Year 6 adults, organised all of the stalls. They sold everything from key rings to resin letters, offered tattoos and glitter as well as home made 3D printed items!

They also ran a very popular 'Club Muga' where the children could sing and dance their hearts out.



We are very proud of their efforts!



Punctuality

School starts at 08.55



Having good attendance also means being on time everyday and not being late to school.

Punctuality is an essential life skill that needs to be taught from the very beginning. Children who arrive late to school can feel embarrassed, left out and they miss out on important introductions to lessons.

Please speak to the school if you are struggling to get your child/children to school time.

Free School Meals Explained!

All children from Reception to Year 6 currently receive a Free School Meal every day at school.

If you are in receipt of certain benefits you may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM). Confusing hey!

The difference is that if you are entitled to FSM there are other means of support that you can tap into. Once you are in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals your child's school will receive additional funding (Pupil Premium) to help and support you through your child's education. The school will also receive extra support to deliver a fully inclusive and accessible education for all of our pupils.

You can apply for Free School Meals at any time while your child is at Elm Wood School.

Please use the QR code to find out about the education awards and benefits that you may be entitled to.



