

OCTOBER 2025



## Message from Mrs Leith

This term it has been lovely to welcome many new members into our Elm Wood Family. The children in Nursery and Reception have settled in well and our amazing team have really enjoyed getting to know the children and their families.

As you know each year group sets an Independent Learning Project for each half term. This half term I have been amazed by the projects that the children have completed.



Please can I take this opportunity to thank all members of our Elm wood Family for supporting the children to complete these projects at home. I am already looking forward to seeing the projects that come into school next half term!

I hope you all have a safe and happy half term!

**Mrs Leith**

### Dates for the Diary...

**24.10.25**

School closes for the Half Term Holidays

**03.10.25**

All children return to school & NHS Flu Vaccine

**07.11.25**

Parent Event: SEND

**11.11.25**

Photographer at school: Individual photographs

**14.11.25**

Parent Event: Curriculum Update

**21.11.25**

School Closed for INSET Day

**28.11.25**

Parent Event: Online Safety

**STAY  
SAFE**

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

Please use this QR code to access term dates.



# HEADTEACHER NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 1, 2025

## TOP NEWS

### Black History Month

Elm Wood "Take Over" Lambeth Town Hall

Christmas Dates for the Diary



The theme for **Black History Month** 2025 is 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride: a powerful tribute to the resilience, strength and commitment to progress that defines the Black community'.

This year, the theme highlights the profound contributions made by Black people, be they leaders, activists or pioneers who have shaped history. 'Power' refers to the ability to affect positive change and 'Pride' highlights the importance of cultural identity, heritage and the celebration of Black excellence.

At Elm Wood, we took part in an Art project which acknowledged Black leaders, activists and visionaries who have driven progress and broken barriers in various fields. Each class created a piece of collage artwork to celebrate an activist. These will be displayed around the school.



The children have also enjoyed African Drumming, Hip hop and breakdancing workshops and assemblies based on the Windrush.



These workshops and assemblies have all been organised and paid for by our amazing Friends of Elm wood.

**THANK  
YOU**

## 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 (19.12.25) 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.

## Christmas Dates for the Diary...

**05.12.25**

FOE Winter Fair (15.30)

**09.12.25**

FOE Winter Disco (during the school day)

**11.12.25**

Key Stage 1 Nativity (10.00 & 14.00)

**15.12.25**

EYFS Craft and singing Event (from 9.05)

**16.12.25**

Year 3 & 4 Christmas Singalong (9.15)

**17.12.25**

Year 5 & 6 Christmas Singalong (9.15)

**18.12.25**

Christmas Dinner Day

**19.12.25**

Christmas Jumper Day

More information to follow for each of the above events.

## Elm Wood's Young Leaders

Please see below the names of our House Captains and Prefects for this year.

### House Captains

Willow: Archie & Annabelle  
Palm: Firdaouz & Florence  
Linden: Safi'ya & Lily  
Oak: Anisa & Zola

### House Prefects

Willow: Mollie & Zoe  
Palm: Sophia & Molly  
Linden: Catalina & Ofure  
Oak: Samira & Skye

Congratulations to you all on your new roles!

## Parking around the school

Please can parents and carers be mindful where and how they park/leave their cars at the beginning and end of the school day.



**It is not acceptable for cars to be parked, left with the engine running whilst the driver of the car enters the school during morning drop off or at the end of the school day.**



Idling, instead of turning your engine off while stationary, increases the amount of exhaust emissions in the air. These emissions contain a number of harmful gasses including carbon dioxide, which is bad for the environment and contributes towards climate change, as

well as a range of other harmful gasses including nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons which are linked to asthma and other lung diseases.

<https://www.elmwoodprimary.co.uk/>

## Girls Football Team Success

A team of year 5 and 6 girls competed at the recent Moving Matters football competition which was held at Kennington Park. 14 schools from across Lambeth took part in the tournament and after a very rainy start, our Elm Wood team managed to progress to the knockout stages.

Following narrow victories in their quarter and semi-finals, the team met Stockwell Primary in the final. Everyone in the team played brilliantly and after a stunning strike from Reign, the final whistle blew and the Elm Wood team were crowned champions!

Well done to all of the girls on such a brilliant achievement and for winning the first trophy of the year!

**Congratulations to Aria (Sanderling), Emma and Molly (Teal), Carmen, Joanne and Violet (Avocet) and Alice, Niamh, Reign and Samira (Lapwing).**



A special mention to Niamh for receiving the most valuable player of the tournament award!

## Elm Wood "Take Over" Lambeth Town Hall

This week, children in our House Captain and School Council teams in Year six were invited to attend a special 'Take Over Day,' at Lambeth Town Hall. Excitingly, we were the only primary school invited to attend this event. Child Friendly Lambeth organised this unique opportunity for our Young Leaders. Please click on the link below if you want to learn more about the great work, they do to empower children and young people in Lambeth.

[About Child Friendly Lambeth | Lambeth Council.](#)

Take Over Day, was a celebration of children and young people's voices, giving them the opportunity to engage directly with decision-makers and influence change in their communities.

Children took part in various activities designed to empower them and help them feel more confident to speak out. This included taking part in a Q&A event with elected members and leaders from the Council Chambers.



Children met the Lambeth Mayor after the Q&A in the Council Chambers.

This was a great day which was enjoyed by all!

## 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.**



## Year 5: Secondary School Applications

Please use the QR code to access more information on how to apply for a secondary school for your child in Lambeth.

**All applications must be completed by 31.10.25**



Please contact the school office if you would like further support with this application.