

OCTOBER 2024

HEADTEACHER NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 1, 2024



TOP NEWS

House Captains and Prefects

Black History Month Celebrations

Sporting Competitions



Message from Mrs Leith

This term it has been a pleasure to welcome 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 each of them and their families.

Last week I had the pleasure of joining the Friends of Elm Wood AGM. It was great to see so many members of our Elm Wood family at this meeting and I am looking forward to working with the new committee members on upcoming projects.

As you know this year we will be awarding the children with certificates for reading at home. Children will receive a certificate in our Celebration Assembly once they have read 25, 50, 75 and 100 times at home. Reading at home to family members really supports children to develop key reading skills and make progress. Please help your children by encouraging them to read at home every day.

It was great to see so many of you at Parents Evening last week and I hope that you all have a safe and happy half term!

Mrs Leith

Black History Month Celebrations

Over the course of the month of October the children have completed lots of activities linked to Black History Month. This includes Story Telling Workshops, African Drumming and Usifu Jalloh Assemblies. Please can I thank the **Friends of Elm Wood** for their support with funding these activities.

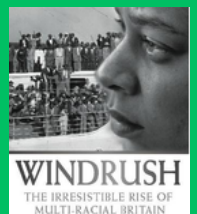
This year's theme for Black History Month is 'Reclaiming Narratives'. This focuses on taking ownership of the stories that define black culture, contributions and our very identity.

At Elm Wood we chose to honour black authors whose narratives continue to make an impact on Black History and the present.

Each year group were allocated an author and a focus text. They have then produced a piece of art showcasing their named author. These amazing pieces of art can now be seen around our school.



The children in Year 6 were very lucky this week as **Sir Trevor Phillips** came into school to talk to them about his book about the Windrush and about his own experience of coming to London on the Windrush.



Dates for the diary...

25.10.24
Communication and Language
EYFS Parent Event
9.30

Halloween Cake Sale (FOE)
15.30 – 16.00

28.10.24 to 01.11.24
School Closed for October Half Term

04.11.24
Year 1 phonics Parent Event (online)
17.00

08.11.24
SEND Parent Event
9.30

15.11.24
Online Safety Parent Event
9.30

School Photographer (individual and Sibling Pictures)

22.11.24
School Closed for INSET DAY

Please see attached document for all of our Key Dates for December 2024



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 can parents and carers be mindful where they park their cars at the beginning and end of the school day. School regularly receives complaints from members of the public regarding inappropriate parking on Hamilton Road and Carnac Street.
- If you are emailing the school office, please include your **child's name** and the name of your **child's class**. Thank you!



Elm Wood's Young Leaders

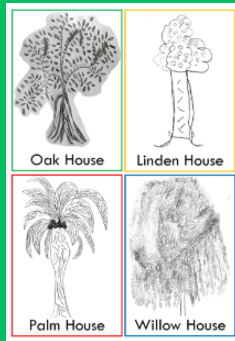
I am delighted to share with you that most of the Elm Wood's Young Leaders roles have been assigned to the following children at Elm Wood.

House Captains

Willow House: Max & Thiago
Palm House: Tasneem & Charlotte
Linden House: Dianne & Maida
Oak House: Jasiri & Clem

Prefects

Janet, Cheveah, Nikolas, Eren, Isra, Arthur & Esther



Eco Team

Year 4: Emma & Esme
Year 5: Florence, Quentin, Freya W & Joanne
Year 6: Dianne, Cheveah, Esther, Clem, Theo & Samara.

School Council

At school this week the children from Year 1 to Year 6 have been voting for their class representative on the School Council.

The children have all enjoyed coming to our voting station to cast their votes.



Bikes and Scooters



From September 2024, any bikes or scooters which are left on school grounds at the end of each term will be removed and disposed of.

Sporting Competitions

Ten pupils from Years 3 and 4 competed at the recent Moving Matters football competition. The boys played brilliantly and managed to progress from their group to the quarter finals.

Unfortunately, the team lost 2-0 to St Pauls but they kept on playing as a team right up until the final whistle. Well done to everyone that took part on the day - you should all be very proud of the way you represented yourselves and Elm Wood!

GOAL!



The next event will be the Years 4, 5 and 6 Girls football competition on Wednesday 6th November.

Foodbank Collection

Thank you to everyone who brought food and essential items into school this week for us to give to our local Foodbank.

The Brixton and Norwood Foodbank have told us that last year we donated a phenomenal amount of food and essential items to them which enabled them to help many families in need.



Punctuality

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

Children who arrive late can feel embarrassed, left out and miss out on important introductions to lessons.

Punctuality is an essential life skill that needs to be taught from the very beginning.



School starts at 08.55

Year 6 - Secondary Applications

Please follow this link to access

[A brief guide to starting secondary school in Lambeth](#)

All applications must be completed by 31.10.24

Please click on the image below to access more information from Lambeth regarding this process.



If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), do not complete a Common Application Form. Please contact your home borough's SEND Team for details about the applications for secondary school.