



Elm Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and a warm welcome. I am looking forwards to the Autumn term as there are lots of fun activities that will be happening this term. The children have made a fantastic start to Autumn term and have enjoyed getting used to our new routines over the last few days. They have daily Maths and English lessons each morning and the wider curriculum is delivered in the afternoons.

Staff in Year 1

I am in the classroom every day and supported by Mrs Phipp and Mrs Rabel. On Wednesday afternoon, the children will be taught by Mrs Hopkin, who covers my PPA time.

Topic

This term we will be working around the question 'Where do we live'. As part of this enquiry, the children will explore atlases, cardinal compass points, and positional and directional language. They will learn about hemispheres and continents and are introduced to the countries, capital cities and settlements of the United Kingdom. Our science-based enquiry will centre around everyday materials and their uses.

In the second half of the term the children will be exploring the past, thinking about 'Who were our mightiest monarchs'. We will be learning about the role of a monarch, where they have lived long ago and how some of the most famous monarchs have influenced our lives today. As we will be rehearsing for a Christmas production during the later stages of the term, our science work sees us working scientifically, predicting, measuring and recording data about the weather.

Things to Remember

Wherever possible, please can the children bring one bag to school, preferably the green Sutton Bonington book bags. We have limited space within the class for rucksacks. The children need to **bring their reading diary and reading practice book with them each day**, a named water bottle and an additional healthy snack for morning break if you feel they need one. Fruit is provided by school for afternoon break.

P.E Days

This term P.E will be taught on Monday and Tuesday afternoon. Children will need to come to school already wearing their PE kit on this day and will remain in their kit until home time.

Reading Books

Children will be bringing home a reading practice book linked to our phonics scheme and a reading record. Please record in their diary each time they have read the reading practice book (we suggest a minimum of three times a week) by noting the date, title and a brief comment. They will be changed once a week, usually on a Friday. Year 1 children will be heard read at least once a week as part of their phonics sessions and for year 2 children they will be heard during whole class reading sessions.

On Friday your child should have also brought home a 'reading for pleasure' book that they have chosen from the library. These will be changed every Friday, so this only needs to be brought to school on this day.

Homework

Please see the grid that accompanies this newsletter regarding homework for this half term.

Values

This term we will be focusing on what it means to belong. We will cover this through assemblies, PSHE lessons and through everyday aspects of school life. Please ask your child how they have been able to show respect and kindness at school and at home.

If you have any questions or worries, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me in school.

Best wishes,

Ms Patel