

## End of Year Newsletter July 2020

I had no idea when I was writing the final newsletter comment this time last year that the next academic year was going to be so different! Since the partial closure of the school in March, it has felt, at times, like a rollercoaster ride, with numerous twists and turns and the odd loop the loop! Every member of staff has had to rapidly adapt to new ways of working. Teachers, teaching assistants, the site team, office team and catering team have all learnt to work in different ways to provide the best continuity possible for our pupils' education and the safest environment for all those on the premises. Every step of the way, the resilience, bravery and commitment shown by the staff has been truly incredible. We also recognise how hard you have worked as parents and carers, adapting routines and dedicating so much time to secure the best outcomes for your children. Our pupils - your children - have been remarkable, showing resilience, adaptability and kindness throughout the last few months. I am immensely proud of the way the Elmridge school community has worked together, embraced change, shown its strength and made the best of a very challenging situation. I would like to thank you all, pupils, staff, parents and governors for the part you have played.

It's important to bear in mind that before the school shut prematurely in March, that the children enjoyed nearly two thirds of a year of uninterrupted school based education. Fantastic work was completed in school by the pupils, sports fixtures took place, trips went ahead and PTA events were well attended. We must be careful not to let 2019-20 be defined simply as "the coronavirus year". This newsletter focusses on the many positives of this extraordinary year and gives you a flavour of some of the fantastic experiences that your children can look forward to in the next academic year 2020-21. Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to welcoming you all back to Elmridge on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Best wishes Mr Edmundson

### Sports News

#### Football

Unfortunately it proved to be a bit of a damp squib this year for the Elmridge football teams. Due to the water-logged state of the pitches, the Year 5 and 6 boys team only managed to complete a game and a half in the league this year and their cup games and tournaments were cancelled due to Covid-19.

The girls were a little bit luckier with their league fixtures and managed to play six matches. They performed admirably with only two year 6 girls and the rest of the team made up with an enthusiastic bunch of year 4's. They also competed in the first round of the cup against a strong Park Road Academy side. They lost but their spirit and teamwork was amazing.

The future looks bright for both the boys and the girls with lots of enthusiasm and talent throughout KS2. Let's hope that a full season can be completed next year!

#### Cross country

This year we have been delighted to see so many of our pupils representing Elmridge at the Crossford Bridge Cross Country meetings.

We have had a great turn out this year and everyone on the team has impressed with their dedication and sportsmanship.

A special congratulations to our boys' cross country team, who came third in the Trafford Primary Cross Country Championship this year. This is an incredible achievement.



## Nursery



Although it was a rather short year for Nursery we have still managed to pack in a lot of activities. We spent the first term learning 'All About Me' and looking at how we had grown from being a baby. We then looked at 'People Who Help Us' and even had our own Fire Station in Nursery - we loved dressing up as firefighters!

We celebrated different events including Christmas, Chinese New Year and Pancake Day where we all made our own yummy pancakes. We also enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day and talking about our favourite books.

Learning about our world is great fun and we did science experiments with ice looking at how we could melt it to rescue the trapped play people and also we magically changed white flowers into coloured ones.

We particularly enjoyed our Spring and Growth topic where we made vegetable soup, explored Monet's paintings and created our own masterpieces and even grew our own beans. We wish you well as you move onto Reception.



## Year 1



Year 1, you are very special to me as you are my first ever Year 1 class! It makes me sad that our time together was cut short but I still have some lovely memories. We started the year learning about toys from the past and we had a great day at the end of term watching Toy Story 4 and you got to bring in a favourite toy of yours from home. You worked really hard developing your reading, writing and Maths skills and Mrs Glazebrook was fantastic in supporting you with your progress. We worked hard to learn our lines and you sung your hearts out at the Christmas nativity and you

were amazing! We had a really fun Christmas party at the end of term and I learned what funky dancers you all are! In the Spring term you showed that you were dinosaur experts and space adventurers in our next topics. We were lucky to have Mrs Somerville teaching with us during this time. We enjoyed a Puzzle Challenge Day, the Wizard of Oz theatre visit and sports relief day. You were just like Andy from his Dinosaur Adventures in our Dinosaur Museum roleplay area and like Neil Armstrong when we had a space theatre workshop from Freshwater theatre. We managed to squeeze in an Easter Egg hunt just before school closed but is has been great to catch up with you on Zoom and see all the hard work you've done on Purple Mash. I am glad you won't be far away next year as you move on to Year 2.



## Year 2



Year 2 have had an amazing year! Our highlights include: Visiting Staircase House and developing our knowledge and understanding of the Great Fire of London. We particularly enjoyed dressing up and retelling the story of the Great Fire of London within the 17th century rooms at Staircase House. We also enjoyed learning about 17th century house construction and we got to take wattle and daub panel back to school. Finally we learnt all about 'The Plague' and made our very own cure using herbs. A brilliant day!

At the end of the Autumn term, we celebrated Christmas around the world. Our class shared their knowledge of what Christmas is like in Spain. I was so proud of how confidently you performed your lines and our song 'Feliz Navidad'!

Another proud moment for us all was when we watched your completed stop motion animation film describing the events of The Great Fire of London. It was definitely a professional finish! The way you worked as a team to complete it was great to watch! I had a great start to our year, you are a very special class and I am excited to watch you all grow and shine in Year 3.



## Year 3



Most importantly, I would like you thank you all for making my first year in Year 3 amazing. I have enjoyed getting to know you all and teaching you so much. I have two favourite memories of this year. First being our trip to Chester. It was a beautiful day for you all to be marching through the streets wearing your Roman uniforms and seeing you all so happy and engaged made the day very enjoyable. My second memory was when we made the earth out of playdough! You were all so excited to be using playdough in the lesson. You worked so well as a team to create the accurate layers of the earth.



During the Autumn and Spring term we had the privilege of taking you swimming and watching your confidence in the water increase every week. Mr Willshire and I were so impressed with your attitude and determination to try new things. Throughout the year we have written myths, learnt about the Romans, volcanoes, forces, just to name a few. You should all be pleased with your achievements across the different subjects. You made some brilliant Roman catapults for our D&T day and some of them fired the rubbers quite a distance! One of the final things you all did was to make your healthy breakfast and evaluate it. There were some delicious combinations and as expected, you all enjoyed the taste test.

I know our year was cut short but you have all made me so proud. You have all worked incredibly hard and I have thoroughly enjoyed our time together. You are all ready for your next journey in Year 4.

## Year 4



It's been a fantastic year this year, albeit with a strange end! In September we welcomed Mrs Hatch to our teaching team and had a fantastic time learning about the water cycle and our digestive system. The definite highlight was our design technology unit based around muffins. I'm not sure what the children enjoyed more: taking part in the taste test or baking our own muffins. Yum!

As we moved towards Christmas we created and tested some complex electrical circuits and learnt all about Henry VIII and his wives. Thankfully we all survived with our heads attached to our necks! We also celebrated a French Christmas as we jetted around the world for songs around the tree.

We also bid farewell to Mrs Hatch, who unfortunately didn't get the chance to return to us.

We had a great time learning about the polar regions and creating our animal encyclopaedia — it's still in the library if you ever wanted to read it! We then became Egyptologists and are experts in mummification!

We have read some fantastic books this year with the Demon Headmaster and Skulduggery Peasant being class favourites. We also finished the year with the most completed miles by any class on the track. Unfortunately we didn't make it to Robinwood this year but I know the children will have a fantastic time when they finally go! Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff, parents and most importantly the children who have made my time at Elmridge a fantastic one! I hope to see you all soon!

## Year 5



Even though our year in school was cut short we have managed to cram a huge amount of experiences and memories into our time together in Year 5!

We were lucky enough to take part in a project for DT sponsored by Dyson and the children approached this with inquisitive and creative minds - we may well have some future design engineers in our midst! At Christmas we decided to visit Germany for our Songs Around the Tree performance and we learned how to sing Silent Night in German. I'm sure everyone will agree that they sounded beautiful. We've become more competitive and entered the 500 words or less story competition for Radio 2 and Sports Hall Athletics for Trafford. We also entered a self-portrait competition and the class voted for our 8 entries. I was extremely

proud to attend the final at Stockport Grammar School with our fabulous artists and their families! Our reading corner has been a firm favourite this year and it was brilliant to see the children snuggling down to get comfy with a good book during Early Bird Readers and throughout the school day.

The children have impressed me with their drama and poetry skills this year from re-enacting scenes from Romeo and Juliet to writing our own witches spell from Macbeth using the same meter and rhyming structure as Shakespeare.

It has been brilliant to see the children taking more of an independent role in their learning by using a dictionary and thesaurus whenever they want to improve their writing or when we are working on our Word of the Day.



In Year 5 we have enjoyed staying active this year through using our track and working towards different marathons and the children have definitely enjoyed their swimming lessons at Altrincham Leisure Centre.

One of my favourite memories of the year is our trip out to Quarry Bank Mill where we carried out a study of the River Bollin and used our compass skills to find our way around Styal Village. The children behaved brilliantly and I was so proud when a member of the public took me to one side to say how well-mannered and polite the class were - a credit to Elmridge! Although I feel sad that we have missed time together I am over the moon to be moving up to Year 6 with this amazing class next year - bring on the next set of adventures!



## Year 6

What a strange year this has been! Despite this, it has been full of wonderful memories Year 6 are sure to take with them. They have all enjoyed being part of new and exciting experiences such as Bikeability, Crucial Crew and baking our own small loaf of bread.

Despite the midyear set back, Year 6 have approached their learning this year with such a positive and determined attitude and they have all continued to strive towards the best they can be. The Autumn term brought a chance for the children to explore the work of Banksy in art lessons and create their own piece of street art. The Spring term was even more fantastic as Year 6 took part in a personal safety course - Crucial Crew - which saw the children using their problem solving skills whilst working with different professionals.

The Summer term has been unique, shall we say. Whether you have been learning virtually and in small bubbles, you have all remained focussed and have worked incredibly hard. It has been lovely to see all the fantastic experiences you have had during such a challenging time and how positive you remained throughout you last term at Elmridge.

I would like to thank all the children for all of their consistent hard work throughout the year and I would like to say how immensely proud of each one of you. Mrs Lowe and I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching this class, both face-to-face and virtually, and we will miss them greatly. We would like to wish them all the best as they leave us for secondary school.



# TEACHING TEAMS AT ELMRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL 2020/2021

Head of School: Mr Edmundson      Teaching School Lead : Mrs Carmichael

Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Pilkington

Nursery- Mrs Stevenson, Miss Wood, Mrs Somani (Teaching Assistants)

Reception- Mrs Charlton-Jones, Mrs Watson and Mrs Glazebrook (Teaching Assistant)

Year 1- Mrs Armstrong and Mrs Talat (Teaching Assistant)

Year 2- Mrs Bridge and Mrs Lynch (Teaching Assistant)

Year 3- Miss Mills and Mrs Lowe (Teaching Assistant)

Year 4- Miss Law and Mrs Lowe (Teaching Assistant)

Year 5- Mrs Pilkington and Mrs Jeneson (Teaching Assistant)

Year 6- Mrs Bryden and Mrs Jeneson (Teaching Assistant)

Mrs Jeneson will be providing individual/small group/pupil premium support

Mrs Rathour will be providing individual pupil support

Mrs Oldfield- Individual classes for art

Mr Whitham - PE Provision 3 days with individual classes

Music - 1.5 days whole class music tuition

## Other News and Information

### PTA

Before school had to close we had arranged lots of events which helped to raise funds to support school.

For the School Year 2019/2020 PTA have supported the following:-

|  |          |              |
|--|----------|--------------|
| READING SOLUTIONS 3YR LICENSE          | £        | 1,300.00     |
| Running Track Final contribution       | £        | 1,200.00     |
| Crucial Crew Yr6 17th Jan'20           | £        | 225.00       |
| National Geographic Kids Subscript     | £        | 90.00        |
| Annual Curriculum Enhancement fu       | £        | 1,000.00     |
| Artificial Grass for Path to the runni | £        | 134.88       |
| Happy Puzzle - Puzzles                 | £        | 199.99       |
| Childrens Laptops                      | £        | 1,000.00     |
| We Aspire Programme Year6              | £        | 150.00       |
| YR6 Leavers Year Book                  | £        | 250.00       |
| <b>TOTAL 2019/20</b>                   | <b>£</b> | <b>5,550</b> |

PTA have also donated £150.00 so that we can arrange some treats for Year 6 this week.

Thank you for all your support and we look forward to more events next year.

### DATES

Tuesday 21st July—Reports to be emailed via ParentMail. If you would also like a hard copy, please advise the school office and we will arrange for you to collect.

Thursday 3rd September

School reopens to pupils

### ELMRIDGE BREAKFAST CLUB

Our new breakfast club will be open from Thursday 3rd September. Thank you to all parents that have completed the booking form. We hope to have a system via ParentPay for future bookings.

We are still taking bookings, please forward any completed forms or queries to [breakfastclub@elmridge.trafford.sch.uk](mailto:breakfastclub@elmridge.trafford.sch.uk)

### CASH HANDLING -

Thank you to parents for using Parentpay where possible.

### SCHOOL MEALS

From September 2020 school meals will be £2.40 per day = £12.00 per week.

Selection and Payment of school meals should be via your ParentPay account. Please contact school if you need registration details. REMINDER - we do not accept cheques for payment of school meals.

### UNIFORM

School Uniform is only available from Monkhouse, currently appointments have to be booked —see website for further details.

### IMPORTANT

Please do not book family holidays in term time.

Leave of absence may be granted for exceptional circumstances, after a meeting with Mr Edmundson.

Any unauthorised absences will be passed to our Education Welfare Officer who may issue a fine. Please see the school website for further information

### SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021

#### OPEN

#### CLOSE

#### AUTUMN TERM 2020

Thursday 3rd September

Friday 23rd October (37)

#### HALF-TERM

Monday 2nd November

Friday 18th December (35)

#### SPRING TERM 2021

Monday 4th January

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February (30)

#### HALF-TERM

Monday 22nd February

Thursday 1st April (29)

#### SUMMER TERM 2021

All schools closed on Monday 3rd May 2021 - May Bank Holiday

Monday 19th April

Friday 28th May (29)

#### HALF-TERM

Monday 14th June

Friday 23rd July (30)

(190)

### NON-PUPIL DAYS/TRAINING

### OCCASIONAL DAYS (5)

Tuesday 1st September 2020

Monday 7th June 2021

Wednesday 2nd September 2020

Tuesday 8th June 2021

Wednesday 9th June 2021

6 x Twilight Sessions

Thursday 10th June 2021

Friday 11th June 2021