

ELMWOOD JUNIORS NEWSLETTER

December 2023



Merry Christmas!

Dear Parents and Carers

I can't believe we are only a few days away from Christmas. While this term has flown by we have had a mixture of both great events mixed with sadness, as we remember former class teacher Mrs Bhatti and think of her family at this time. We held our first Elmwood Christmas Fair with the infants and raised over £800 for the Elmwood schools, and I believe it was a huge success. I would like to extend a massive thank you to the Friends of Elmwood for all their hard work and support to make this event possible.

Last week we had the Year 3 Christmas play which was excellent, as well as the Elmwood Junior Choir concert which was outstanding! The creativity and talent amongst our children tells me the future is very bright indeed! Last Friday we had our annual Christmas Jumper Day raising money for the children's chosen charity, Legacy. We raised £227.

Once again I would like to thank you for all your support throughout the term. I would like to wish you and your family a very safe and relaxing Christmas holidays, and look forward to receiving all the children back on Monday 8th January, bright and fresh!

Merry Christmas!!

Mr Marston

Compassionate

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

Aesop



Year 3- 'Magnificent Metals'

In year 3, we have had an exciting term of exploration and discoveries. From finding our Iron man, discovering skeletons from the bronze age and hosting a magnets workshop for year 2, it certainly has been a busy and exciting term. After all the knowledge and skills they gained this term, they really impressed us all as they were able to explain their learning and ideas to the year 2s in a Magnets and forces workshop.



Christmas production - 'No one wraps like an elf'

This term, the children took part in their Christmas production. They worked hard to bring the spirit of the season to life through their performances. The play showcased not only their creativity, but also their teamwork and dedication. It was great to see how resilient and confident the children were! A huge well done to all of the year 3 children for putting on a spectacular performance and thank you to all the parents for supporting!

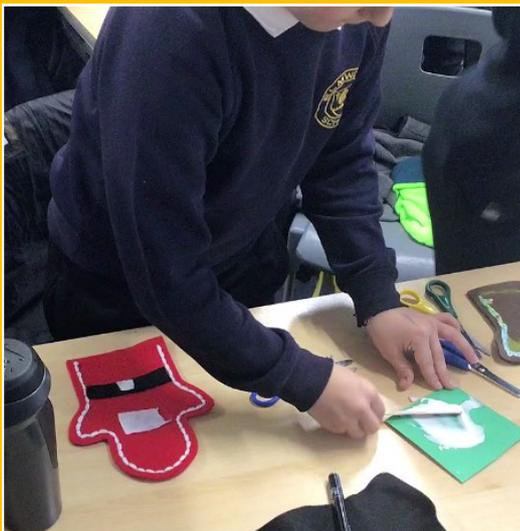


Art - Iron man sculptures in the style of Albert Giacometti

In art this term, the children studied the artist Albert Giacometti, a Swiss sculptor, painter and printmaker. They looked at various works of his and discussed how his figures had been changed and how he used form and shape to create elongated human figures. After being inspired by his sculptures, they then created their own 'Iron man' sculptures using foil.

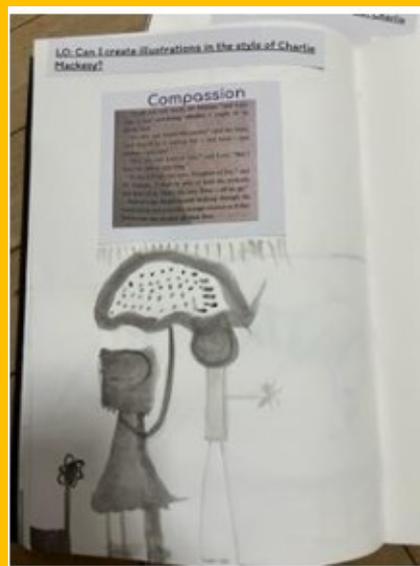
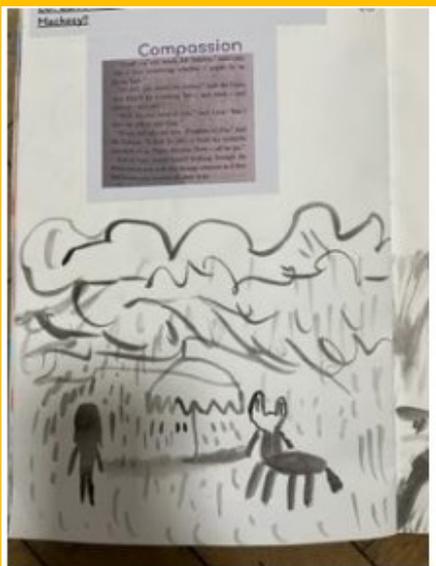
Year 4 - 'Cruelty vs. Compassion'

We have had a fun-filled and busy term in year 4. For our theme 'Compassion vs Cruelty' we began by learning more about the word meanings, linking them to real-life experiences and role playing scenarios from cue-cards. Combining our DT learning with our exit point, we challenged the children to be compassionate and donate their hand-made Christmas puppets to the year 3 play. The children really demonstrated their understanding of what it is to be compassionate and also loved seeing their puppets on the stage during the performance.



Art - Illustrations in the style of Charlie Mackesy

In Art this half term we have studied the work of illustrator, Charlie Mackesy. Most children were familiar with his book - 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse' but have really enjoyed researching his background, finding out more about what inspired him and seeing other work he has completed - particularly the links with the NHS during the pandemic. The children were tasked with creating two opposing illustrations in the style of Charlie Mackesy, depicting scenes of compassion or cruelty from 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'. The work was completed using watercolour pens, a medium they were less familiar with. We were all impressed with the children's creativity!



English - Story writing our own version of 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'

One of the most exciting and rewarding challenges the children have had this half term has been to write their own version of 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'. The children were tasked with creating their own villain, hero, protagonist and dilemma, all inspired by what they have read during this English unit. We feel extremely proud of what the children have achieved and their stories are available to read on Google Classroom!

Creative



*There is no doubt
that creativity is
the most
important
resource of all*
Edward de Bono

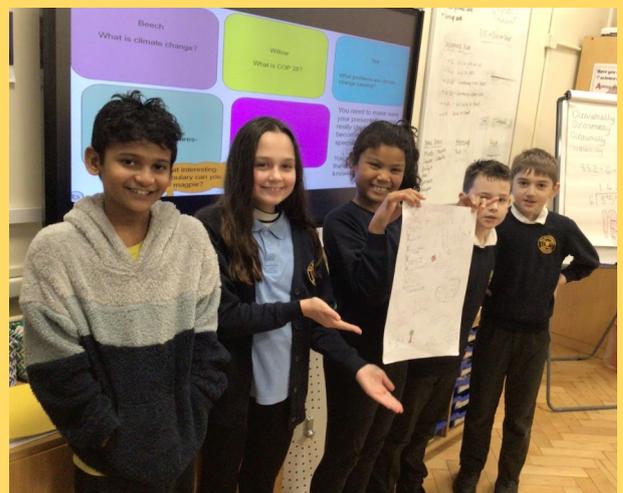
2023 Attendance Awards

CONGRATULATIONS!

A big congratulations to 5DJ, 6S and 6P who achieved 100% attendance for an entire week this half term!

Year 5 Engineering our world

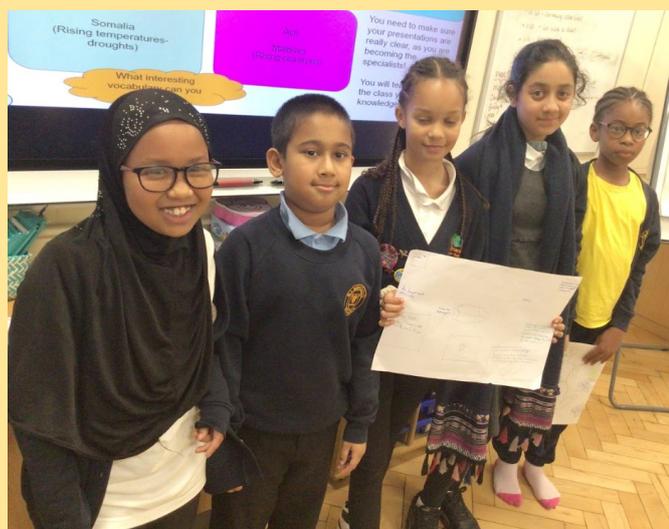
Year 5 kicked off the half term with a trip to the Science Museum. Our theme this half term has been engineering our world, and at the Science Museum we looked at some of the greatest inventions of all time. From aeroplanes to covid-19 vaccines, we saw it all, and learnt a lot! We even took part in a workshop called 'WonderLab', this quickly became a highlight of the day. Along with some of the Scientists that work at the museum we got to take part in some experiments, watch demonstrations, and explore and investigate different materials.



English - A World Full of Journeys and Migrations.

One of the books we have been reading in English this half term is 'A World Full of Journeys and Migrations' by Martin Howard. We looked at how migration has shaped society as we know it today, and talked about how boring the world would be if no one travelled. There are different reasons why people may choose to migrate, but we focused on the effect climate change is having in some countries (specifically the Maldives and Somalia) and how that is causing people to migrate.

The class became the teachers, and each group had a specific question about climate change or migration to research. We then became the teachers and taught the class about what we had found out.



MIP roll call for December!

A huge well done to all these children for showing you can improve if you really focus and try your very best.

3S	3B	3C	3R
Oliver	Abhishek	Yusuf	Azra
4Bl	4Ba	4R	4K
Flourish	Kevin	Eleon	Mona
5F	5S	5A	5DJ
Emily K	Tamilvurna	Celine	Jessie
6H	6P	6F	6S
Esswar	Ali Haider	Ethan	Caleb Noah

Year 6— Activism and Enterprise

In English, we learned all about the Suffragette movement and their fight for gender equality in Britain. This led to us looking at Britain during this time, where the British Empire ruled over $\frac{1}{4}$ of the planet. In History, we questioned whether this was a good thing or not. This led us to our enquiry question: Can war ever be justified? We looked at the events that led to the outbreak of both the First and the Second World Wars (which we look at in more detail next half term). The year group created excellent historical analysis over these lessons.

We were visited by the 'Drama Geezers', who led the year group through lots of drama exercises culminating in the creation of our very own Activism trailers. Each class had a 50 minute session where they created their own 30-second activism trailer based on varied topics such as 'Black Lives Matter', 'Anti-Bullying' and 'Save our Oceans'. The year group showed so many of our Elmwood values in the session: Risk-Taker, Team Player, Open-mindedness, Creativity, Respect and Resilience.



Respectful



We should all consider each other as human beings, and we should respect each other
Malala Yousafzai

A Team Player

Great things in business are never achieved by one person. They're achieved by a team of people.
Steve Jobs



Year 6 Shock Protest!!!!

Our exit point for this theme has been through Art. We studied the work of Bob and Roberta Smith, focusing on his Protest Art. We created our own pieces of protest art and took to the playground on Friday 15th December - complete with Christmas jumpers - to stage our protests. Issues such as gender equality, racism in sport, teaching arts in school and environmental issues were all protested.



Confident



If we all did the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astound ourselves.

THOMAS EDISON

Responsible



The final forming of a person's character lies in their own hands

Anne Frank

Elmwood Sports / PE Updates

Our school sent a group of enthusiastic students to participate in a Sportshall Athletics Qualifier on Thursday, December 7th, hosted at Archbishop Lanfranc. The competition was a combination of field and track events, with each event designed to test the athletic abilities of the students. Some of the field events included chest throw, long jump, and speedy bounce, while the track events included relay 1+1, obstacle relay, and team relay.

Our team showcased their athletic prowess and did an excellent job in the competition. They put up a fantastic performance, especially in the track events. It was an exciting day for everyone involved, and the students had a great time representing Elmwood Junior and showing off their skills.

We would like to extend our heartiest congratulations to all the students who participated in the competition. It was an impressive performance, and we are proud of what they have accomplished. They have set a high standard for future athletes to follow.

This half term in their Outdoor PE lessons, children have been developing key Netball skills. They have been working on skills such as passing, shooting and defensive techniques. We encourage you to quiz your children on how much they can now tell you about Netball!

Key dates for your diary Spring 2024

8/1	Beginning of Spring Term
8/1	6F & 6H Trip to Croydon Fire Station
9/1	6S & 10 of 6F SPLATT! Theatre Trip
10/1	Y3 Start swimming (every Wednesday)
11/1	6P & 10 of 6F SPLATT! Theatre Trip
12/1	3S & 3B Trip to British Museum
12/1	6S & 6P Trip to Croydon Fire Station
15/1	6H & 10 of 6F SPLATT! Theatre Trip
15/1	Y5 & 6 Elmwood Choir at Young Voices O2
25/1	3C & 3R Trip to British Museum
31/1	George Knowland Day
9/2	Legacy Crazy Hair Day
13/3 & 14/3	Parents Evening
20/3	5DJ & 5A Trip to Hampton Court
22/3	5F & 5S Trip to Hampton Court
28/3	Last Day of Term