



# Elmhurst Junior School

*Motivated and empowered; influencing the world we live in to bring about positive change.*

**Spring Term 1**  
**Week 3**  
**WC 19/1/26**



# A message from Ms Airey



Dear Parents and Carers,

Every week we share a wide range of work from the children which shows how broad our curriculum is and how the subjects develop across the year and throughout the year groups. The children continue to amaze me with the amount of knowledge that they learn and then recall when talking about the different subjects; this week Jo in Year 4 was telling me all about how rivers meander and the impact of erosion and deposition.

The whole school have been apply their maths skills into their maths enquiry work and it is shows how important those basic maths facts and skills are when trying to solve real world problems.

As you might have seen the week ended with an emails from the Secretary of State for Education sending the school an email and praising us for our efforts:

*“Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Elmhurst Junior School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school’s performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.*”

*This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.”*

**Bridget Phillipson**  
**Secretary of State for Education**



# What is reflection time?



We have had a few queries from parents and carers about our reflection card system, so we wanted to share some more information about how they work and why we use them.

Reflection cards are used when a choice has not gone well, either in class or during playtime. They provide a calm, structured opportunity for staff to sit down with a child and hear their point of view. Rather than staff simply deciding what happened, this process ensures the child's voice is heard and they have a chance to explain their perspective.

To ensure this process is as effective as possible:

- These sessions take place during playtimes and lunchtimes. This allows staff to be fully available to listen and support the children without the pressure of a busy lesson. It also ensures that your child does not miss any important learning time in the classroom.
- Staff use restorative questions to guide the chat, such as *"What happened?"*, *"Who has been affected?"* and *"What can we do to make things right?"*. This helps children develop empathy and problem-solving skills.
- We want to reassure you that this is not a punishment or a formal sanction. It is a positive, supportive way to resolve conflicts, help children reflect on their choices, and move forward in a restorative way.

By using this system, we aim to build a school community where children feel respected, understood, and supported in learning from their mistakes.



# A reminder from the team



## Toys and Fidgets in School



We have noticed a rise in pupils bringing different items into school so here's a quick reminder of our policy on soft toys and fidgets:

- **Please leave soft toys and personal fidgets at home.** These items often cause distraction or get lost/damaged in the classroom and/or playground.
- **The only exception** is if the item has been **formally agreed upon in advance** with the **class teacher** or the **SENDCo**. This only happens when the item is a specific, necessary part of a pupil's individual support plan.



Thank you for helping us keep the learning environment focused and safe for everyone.



# Elmhurst Student Blog

Hi there,

It's Isabel and Hope here and we will inform you on what everyone has been doing this week!

First up we have Year three – Fir class. They were very lucky and got to use a variety of colors, plus beads and buttons for weaving in art. In English they learned about Professor Puffindor and he has two little helpers, Chip,(guinea pig) and Enzo was also his helper who was evil. Next up we have Ash class – Year four. They did science where they learned about how rivers change the land. In Maths they have been learning the division method with three digit numbers. Thirdly we have Willow class – Year four where they had cricket with a professional cricket coach who was very helpful. In computing they were increasing their maths skills by going on TT rock stars on sound check.

In Yew class (year five) they finished their Francis story in English. In DT they were tasting different fruits and vegetables such as kiwi, oranges and peppers. In maths (Oak Class) they started their decimals subject; they were looking at the thousandths place (0.001) they also did science in the afternoon they did the life cycles of three different animals: ladybird, caterpillar and a small newt. Year six, hazel class, did Re and they learnt about unconditional love also known as agape. They also did angles in maths. We also did art where we chose what soap carving we would do next week for our Inuit art topic. In English we are finishing off our publishing of our roads end story.

That's it for now bye!



# Elmhurst Events



[CLICK HERE](#)



## Spring Term I

<b>Thursday 5th February</b>	Y5/6 watching Crispin performance of Frozen at Strode Theatre in the morning.
<b>Friday 6th February</b>	2:30pm Parent open class session (TBC) Celebration assembly will be held Thursday 5th February Number Day 2026
<b>Wednesday 11th February</b>	Y5/6 watching Millfield performance of High School Musical in afternoon.
<b>Thursday 12th February</b>	Last day of term
<b>Friday 13th February</b>	Trust INSET day- school closed to pupils



# Elmhurst Events



[CLICK HERE](#)



## Spring Term 2

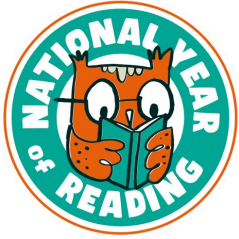
<b>Monday 23rd February</b>	Start of Spring Term 2 - all pupils in
<b>Thursday 26th &amp; Friday 27th February</b>	Bikeability - Year 6 Rowan Class (details to follow)
<b>Tues 17th &amp; Thursday 19th March</b>	Parent teacher consultations (times and booking slots to follow)



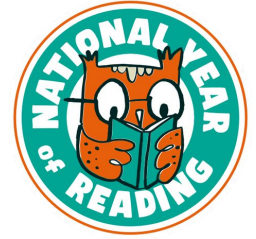
# Elmhurst Sports Events



Monday 2nd February	Netball at Strode 1pm-3pm



# Reading Champions



Year 3

Molly  
Thea

Year 4

Dexter

Year 5

Maisie  
Diana

Year 6

Ruby D

These pupils were chosen for their commitment and attitude towards reading this week.



We celebrate the most improved statistics over the last 7 days for...



Accuracy

Coins

Correct Answers

Minutes Played

Studio Speed



Esme C  
Year 3

Theo H  
Year 5

Tyler T  
Year 3

Izzi B  
Year 4

Zak F  
Year 4

In DT, we have been learning about the work of William Morris.

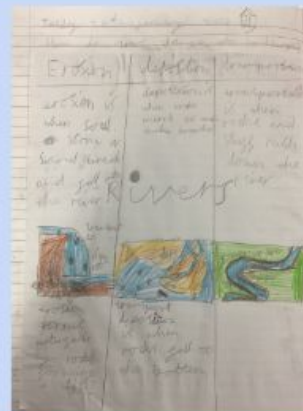
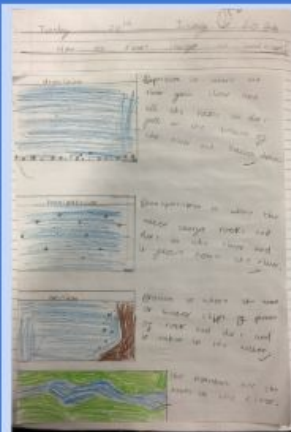
With some help from Millfield, we created our own prints using block printing.



We then embellished our prints using a range of media.

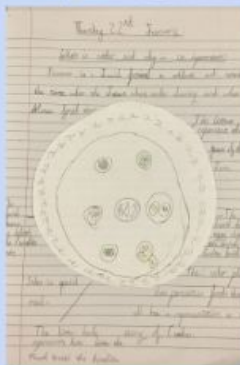
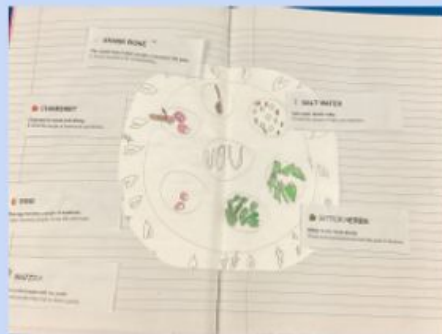


# Year 3: Ash and Fir Class

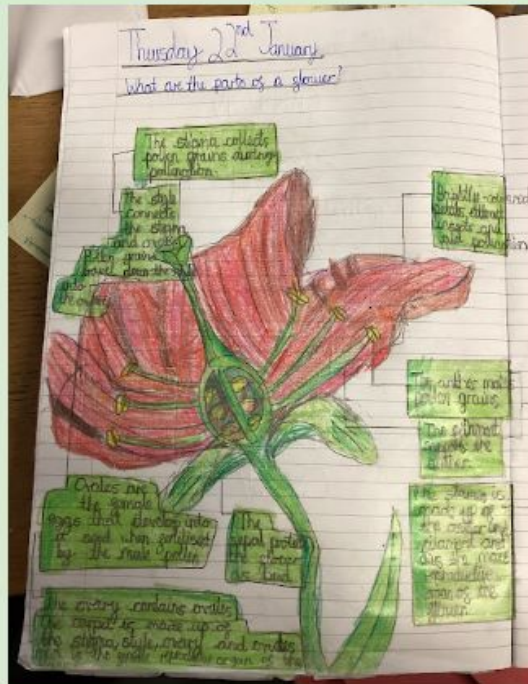


In Geography, we have been learning about **erosion, deposition and transportation**. These are the ways that rivers can change landscapes.

In RE, we have been learning about the **Seder plate**, which Jewish people use during Passover to remember the story of freedom from slavery in Egypt.



# Year 4: Ash and Willow Class

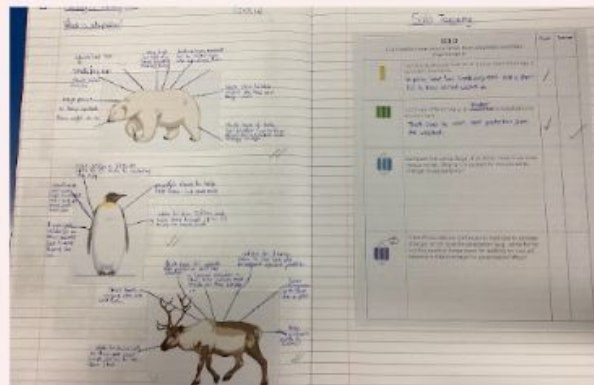


In RE we learnt what Tri-Murti is?



In DT we tasted seasonal fruit and veg and then evaluated it for taste, texture, look. In Science we have been learning about the parts of a flower.

# Year 5: Oak & Yew Class



In year 6 this week, we have finished editing and proofreading our stories and have started publishing them. In gymnastics, we have reminding ourselves of the rolling actions used in gym and in Science we have been learning about adaptation and considering how polar animals have adapted behaviorally and in their appearance to adapt to their environment.



# Year 6: Hazel & Rowan Class

# Forest School



In Forest School, we searched for our own sticks. We learnt how to potato peelers safely and created our own marshmallow-toasting sticks which we will try out in our next session!

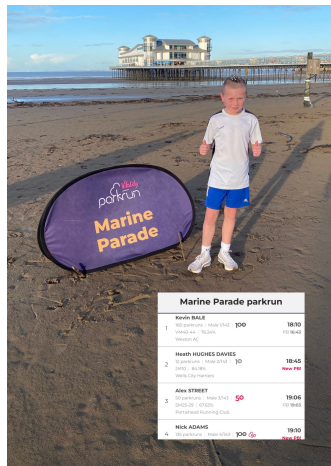




# Elmhurst Sports News



Well done to Annabelle in Ash Class for gaining level 4 in swimming!

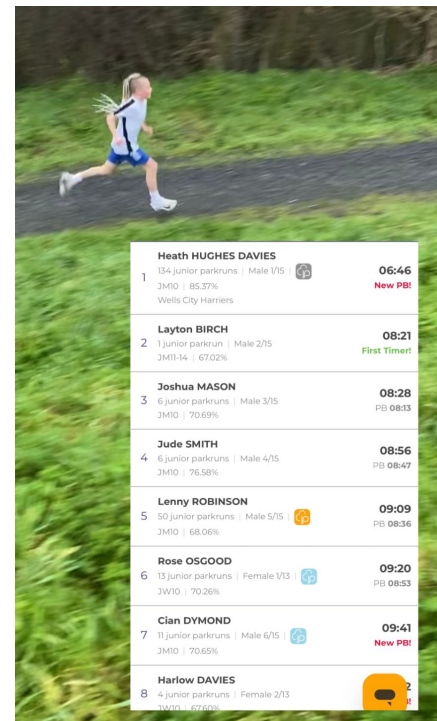


Marine Parade parkrun			
Kevin BAILE	1	19:00	19:00
Heath HUGHES DAVIES	2	19:48	19:48
Alex STREET	3	19:06	19:06
Nick ADAMS	4	19:10	19:10

Heath had a busy weekend, with some fantastic results. On Saturday he ran the Weston Super Mare Adult 5km parkrun and came 2nd out of 305 adults. He shaved 48 seconds from his 5km personal best.

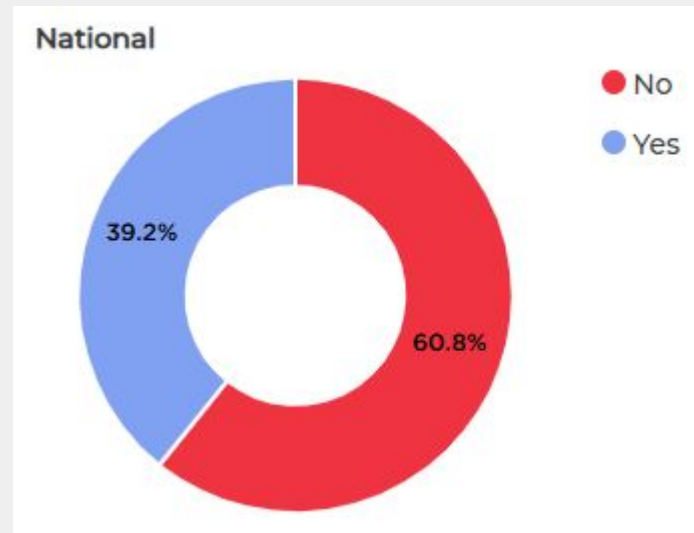
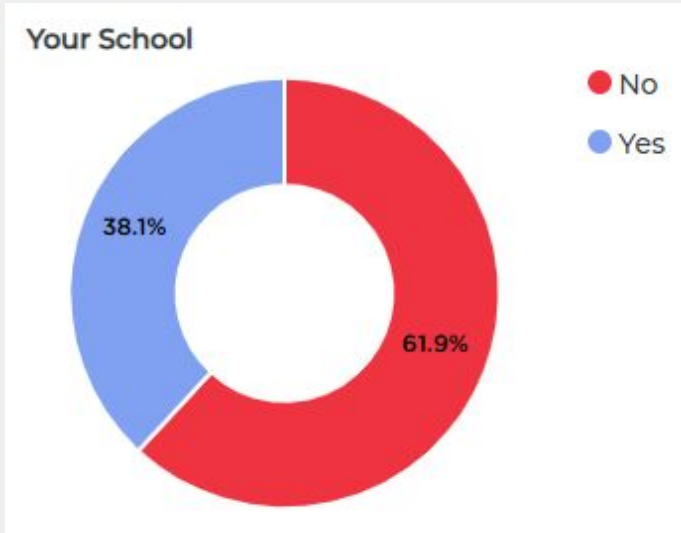
On Sunday he ran the 2km Woolavington Junior Park Run winning in a time of 6.46 and shaving 5 seconds from his personal best.

Well done Heath.



<b>Heath HUGHES DAVIES</b>			
1	134 Junior parkruns   Male 1/15	06:46	New PBI
	2M10   85.37%		
	Wells City Harriers		
<b>Layton BIRCH</b>			
2	1 Junior parkrun   Male 2/15	08:21	First Timer
	2M11-14   67.02%		
<b>Joshua MASON</b>			
3	6 Junior parkruns   Male 3/15	08:28	
	2M10   70.69%		
<b>Jude SMITH</b>			
4	6 Junior parkruns   Male 4/15	08:56	
	2M10   76.58%		
<b>Lenny ROBINSON</b>			
5	50 Junior parkruns   Male 5/15	09:09	
	2M10   68.06%		
<b>Rose OSGOOD</b>			
6	13 Junior parkruns   Female 1/13	09:20	
	3W10   70.26%		
<b>Clan DYMOND</b>			
7	11 Junior parkruns   Male 6/15	09:41	New PBI
	2M10   70.65%		
<b>Harlow DAVIES</b>			
8	4 Junior parkruns   Female 2/13		
	3W10   67.69%		

## Is it easy to challenge stereotypes?



Thousands of families across the country are watching *The Traitors*, and many commentators are wondering if unconscious bias is playing a role in some of the game play. So this week, we have been thinking about whether it is easy to challenge stereotypes.



We hope you can all help us celebrate Number Day this year by dressing up in a number themed outfit and bringing in any number based games to play.





**Wessex**  
**Learning Trust**

We Learn Together

23 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to inform you that I will be retiring from my role as Chief Executive of the Wessex Learning Trust at the end of this academic year.

It has been a privilege to grow and serve the Trust, and to work with our schools and settings on behalf of the children and young people in our care. I have been consistently impressed by the dedication of our staff and the strong partnerships we share with families and communities.

I am hugely proud of the progress our schools have made and of the values that underpin our work: high expectations, care for every child, and a commitment to continuous improvement. The Board of Trustees is overseeing leadership succession to ensure stability and continuity, and I am confident the Trust will continue to go from strength to strength.

I would like to thank you for your trust, support, and engagement with our schools. It has been an honour to lead the organisation since 2017 on this chapter of its journey.

With warmest regards,

**GAVIN BALL**  
Chief Executive

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## Tell Us What You Think?

Your input is crucial! We're running four important surveys across our Trust schools to help us understand what matters most and enhance the overall experience for students, parents, and staff. We'd greatly appreciate your time.

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### Parent Survey

The purpose of this questionnaire is to find out what matters to you most about food at your Child's school and how satisfied you are with the service.

[CLICK HERE](#)



**Wessex**  
**Learning Trust**