

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all well and safe. For those of you who are observing Ramadan, I hope that you are enjoying this special time with your families. Please do watch Ms Islam's lovely Ramadan assembly.

I would like to not only commend our staff and pupils for their excellent efforts with remote learning, but your efforts too in supporting them so well at home. As you can see from the richness of the work from the early years and those pupils with special needs, our children are developing their independence and creativity. Whilst we are talking about this theme, I wanted to commend Nazeef Uddin (6T) and Samiha Ash-raq(6V) who took part in a national virtual debate and spoke eloquently about how this period of remote learning has provided unique opportunities to be more independent - there are more details about the debate within this newsletter.

Please keep checking that your children are uploading their work onto Google Classroom since there has been a dip in submission since Easter in some year groups- look out for the weekly book prizes delivered to pupils engaging well with their Google Classroom.

All the staff miss our children and families and it is wonderful that staff have set up weekly Google Hangouts so that classes can remain connected - a special thank you to Ms O Toole for sorting this out for everyone. I was eavesdropping onto the year 4 ones and Mr Furness's class was having a lot of fun playing a fortunately/unfortunately word game. Our lovely support staff have a special message for the children - please look at the final page of the newsletter.

I will write again next week with more details about school re opening plans once schools hear the outcome of today's meeting with the government, its scientific advisors and the unions.

Best wishes,

Ms Samra

PARENT WORKSHOPS:

♦ CAMHS Saturday Pop-Up Service

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-pop-up-camhs-newham-registration-102088330946>

Bookable 40min video-conference slots for families not open to CAMHS. First come first served basis.

♦ Newham CAMHS Workshops

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/newham-camhs-workshops-23209370238>

For any families with children in Newham. Parents/carers can sign up to any workshops they are interested in. These are:

- **Coping with anxiety (27th May)**
- **Managing my mood (10th June)**
- **Managing anger (24th June)**
- **Managing worries (8th July)**

Win a Book Prize for your Google Classroom work!

One lucky pupil in each year group will now receive a book as a prize for completing their Google Classroom work to a high standard throughout the week. Each week teachers will be nominating two pupils in their class who will receive a virtual certificate. Their names will be put into a hat and the winning child will receive a book delivered by Newham Bookshop straight to their doorstep!

*“Tough Times Never Last, but
Tough People Do...”*

-Robert H Schaffer



Nursery

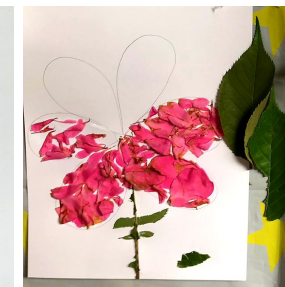


Nursery children have been keeping up with their daily RWI Phonics online. Others have been practicing their sounds and reading with family members most days. We have had some photos of children playing the games we have set. As talking and communication is very important for development in Reception, we suggest that children keep up with lots of talking and discussions about everyday life. Children should also continue with their book—packs we sent out.

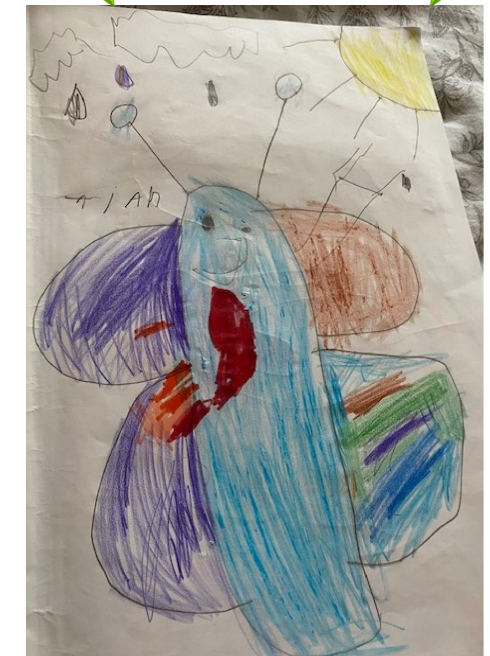
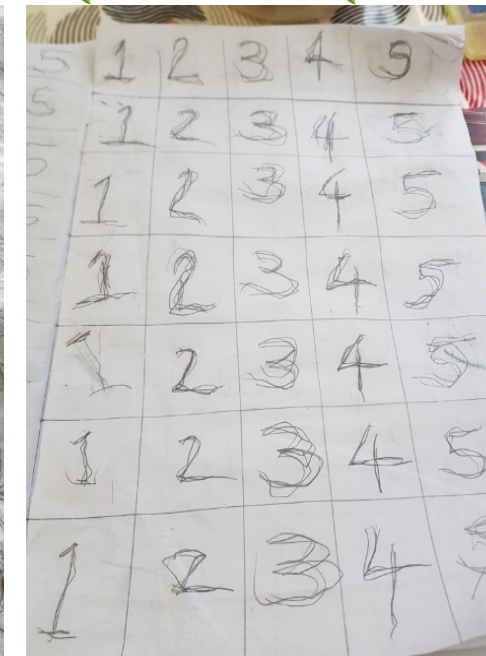
We will have our first hangouts video call this week so watch Parent Mail for the times. We have been missing our children dearly and hope and pray all families are safe and well. Do send in photos via email to share how you are all getting on.

Best Wishes !

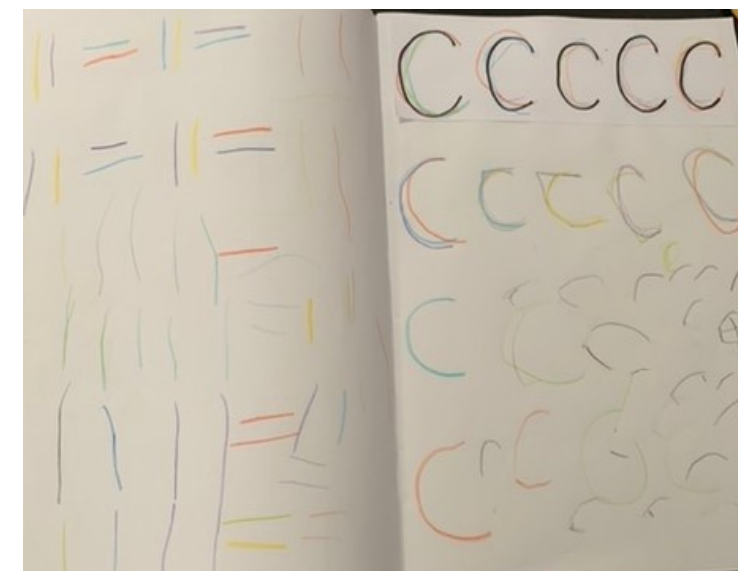
— Nursery Team



Fatimah Ibrahim created a flower picture using real petals and leaves which she collected during her daily walk.



Alia made cornflake nests cake.



SEN



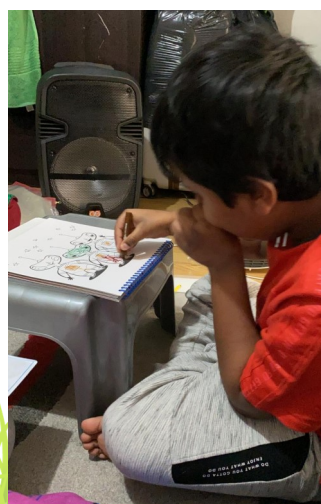
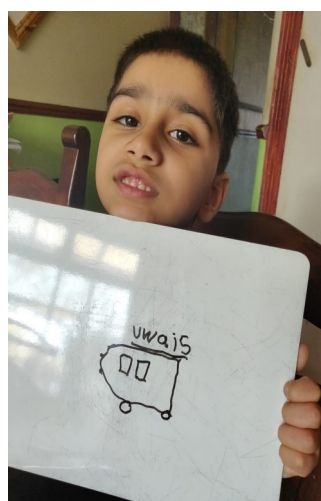
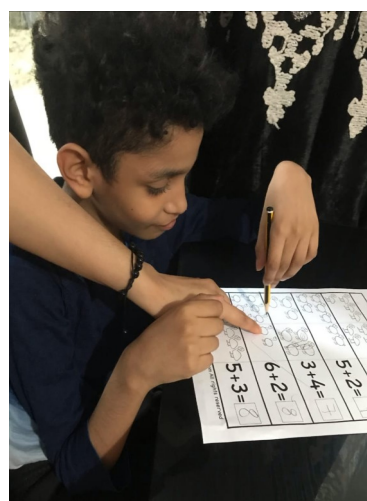
We are regularly contacting our children with SEN to check that they are doing well at home. We do miss them and hope that we see them again very soon. We will be continuing to carry out risk assessments to check that everyone is ok over the next weeks.

We are sending out activity ideas on the Parent Mail every Monday and hope that these provide opportunities for learning and for fun. I hope that parents are taking time to interact with their children and share games, stories and physical activities, also finding plenty of opportunities for outside exercise and talking about everything all of the time!

When we start to make plans for coming back to school (hopefully not too long now!) we will carefully plan this so that your children can have a smooth transition after this long period away from the classroom environment and we will share these plans with you.

Please let us know if we can help in any way with your home learning or with any difficulties that you may be experiencing in this lock down period, and we will do all that we can to help.

— Jane Nash



Two Elmhurst pupils were broadcast nationwide, as they debated against a leading scientist and a former government minister.

Nazeef Uddin (6T) and Samiha Ashfaq (6V) both in year six, were invited to take part in the war of words by the charity Debate Mate, and it saw them compete against Lord Adonis, who was a minister in both Tony Blair's and Gordon Brown's governments, and Dr Rose Luckin, an expert in Artificial Intelligence from University College London.

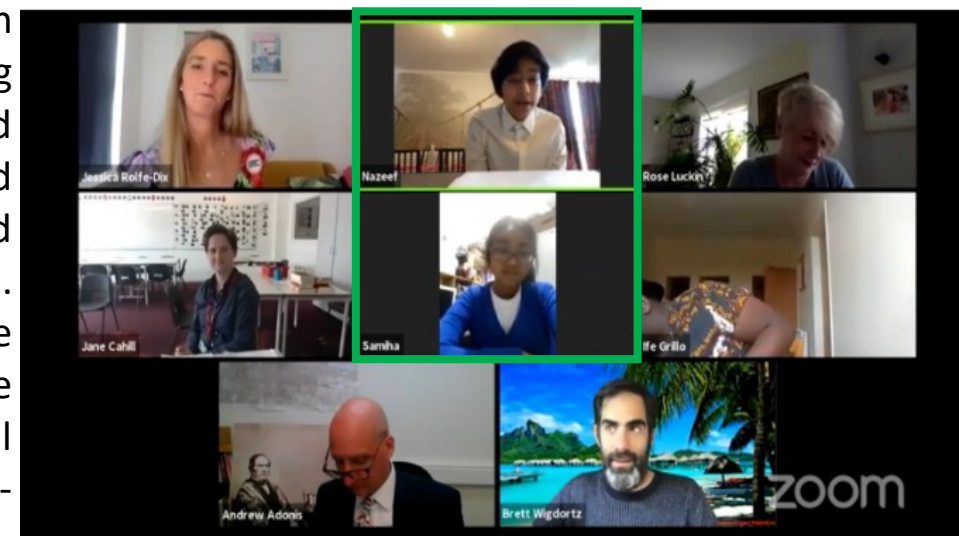
Despite being up against such fearsome opposition, both children spoke with poise, confidence and authority and were lavished with praise both by their fellow panellists and the audience of several hundred, which was following the proceedings through YouTube and the video app Zoom.

The very topical motion was 'This House Believes That time is Up for the Traditional Classroom', with Nazeef and Dr Luckin arguing for the motion and Samiha and Lord Adonis arguing in opposition. Two professional debaters rounded off the teams of three. It was very closely fought but the opposition team emerged victorious, showing there is still room for traditional teaching in the modern, digital world.

You can watch the debate back at Debate Mate's YouTube Channel:

www.youtube.com/debatemateUK

Nazeef and Samiha have both been involved with debating at Elmhurst for two years and are members of the squad that is currently ranked third in the national league. Samiha was also part of the team that made it to the grand final of the national debating cup at Oxford University last year.



Google Hangouts



Dear Parents,

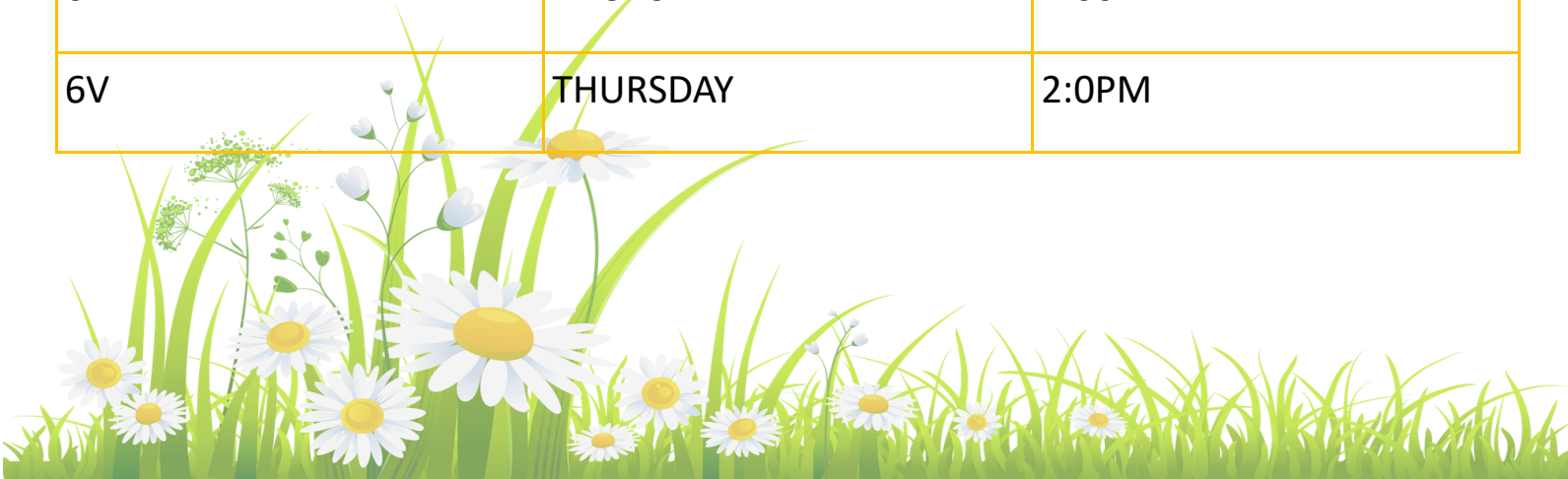
By now, your child should have had their first Hangouts video call with their teacher and classmates. Personally, this gave us a much needed boost of morale which we hope your child experienced too! While we are thrilled that we have the opportunity to see and speak to each other virtually, we also want to make this platform a safe space for all. Therefore, please note that your child should only be using Google Hangouts at the **specified time** the teacher has set. The school cannot be held responsible for any form of communication between pupils outside of this time.

We are all very much looking forward to our next class Hangouts call!

Please find the timings of your child's Hangouts Call down below:

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
1K	TUESDAY	2:00PM
1S	TUESDAY	2:00PM
1C	TUESDAY	2:00PM
1N	TUESDAY	1:00PM
2K	TUESDAY	2:00PM
2CK	TUESDAY	11:30AM
2A	TUESDAY	12:00PM
2OT	THURSDAY	11:30PM

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
3A	THURSDAY	2:00PM
3TA	THURSDAY	2:00PM
3S	THURSDAY	2:00PM
3K	THURSDAY	2:00PM
4W	THURSDAY	1:30PM
4RW	TUESDAY	1:30PM
4E	THURSDAY	11:00AM
4F	MONDAY	11:000AM
5A	TUESDAY	11:00PM
5R	THURSDAY	12:00PM
5SA	THURSDAY	2:30PM
5CF	FRIDAY	2:30PM
6T	WEDNESDAY	12:00PM
6P	FRIDAY	12:00PM
6R	THURSDAY	1:00PM
6V	THURSDAY	2:0PM



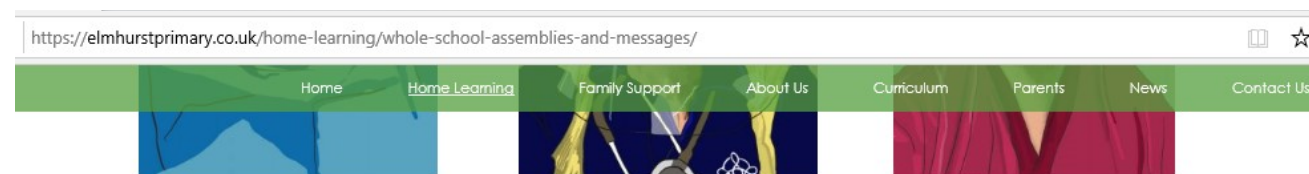
Ramadan Assembly



Those of you who are observing Ramadan, we hope that it is going well for you and your families. No doubt this Ramadan will be like no other. It has been advised by the NHS to consider not fasting in these times if you have health problems or are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus. Nonetheless we wish you all have a safe and peaceful Ramadan.

To bring some joy during this time, Mrs Islam has done an online assembly on Ramadan for the pupils and parents; this is now available to watch on our school website or can be accessed using the link below:

<https://elmhurstprimary.co.uk/home-learning/whole-school-assemblies-and-messages/>



Ramadan Assembly from Ms Islam



Triple P Advice

1. Reassure your children that your family is your top priority

— Say something like “I’m your parent, its my job to keep you safe and we are doing everything we can.”

2. Maintain everyday family routines

— Keep to usual rising times, mealtimes and bedtimes. Involve children in working out a new routine.

3. Have plenty of interesting things to do at home

— Busy children are less likely to be bored and misbehave. Help create a list of 20 activities that will keep them busy.

4. Take notice of behaviour you like

— Use plenty of praise and positive attention to encourage behaviour you like. Give them positive attention letting them know you are pleased by telling them what they have just done. Think about values, skills and behaviours you wish to encourage in your children during this time.

5. Make sure your child knows you are ready to talk

— Children need to be able to talk to parents about their concerns and have their questions answered. When a child wants to talk about their feelings, stop what you are doing and listen carefully. Let children know it is OK to be worried.

6. Be truthful in answering children’s questions

— Find out what they know about the issue before answering. Keep answers simple. Get information from trusted sources rather than social media.

7. Have a family plan of action.

— Involve children in preparing the plan. As situations can change quickly update the plan as needed.

8. Help children learn to tolerate more uncertainty

— The COVID-19 crisis creates uncertainty for everyone. Parents need to find a way to accept uncertainty and, through your actions and words show this acceptance to your children.

9. Take care of yourself the best you can

— Deal with your own distress by taking actions that give you a better sense of personal control. Keep healthy and safe. Avoid behaviour that might increase your stress. For example, while it is helpful to keep informed about COVID-19, constant checking on your screens can increase stress.

10. Reach out and connect with loved ones

— Make greater use of phones, online communication tools and social media to keep in touch with family, friends, and neighbours. Help others in need, who are going through a tough time and are more vulnerable.

Free School Meals Scheme

Dear Families, as a school we are aware that many may be struggling and may require additional support. If you are no longer a working family we advise you take a look at the scheme below initiated by the government.

National Voucher Scheme launched for schools providing free school meals.

Children eligible for free school meals can benefit from a national voucher scheme while stay at home. This delivers on the Government commitment to provide ongoing support for the 1.3 million children that would receive benefits—related free school meals at their school.

Schools can now provide every eligible child with a weekly shopping voucher worth £15 to spend at supermarkets while schools are closed due to Coronavirus.

The scheme will allow schools to provide voucher to families electronically, or as a gift card for those without internet access.

Parents will receive the voucher though their child's school, which can then be redeemed online via a code, or sent to their house as a gift card and used at supermarkets across the country.

Schools will receive an email from the Department of Education's chosen supplier, Edenred, explaining how to access and administer the voucher scheme locally.

Full Details of this scheme can be found using the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance>

Our TAs Miss You!!

Our teaching assistants have been busy doing online training in supporting teaching and learning in the classroom and have reported that it has been a highly informative and interesting course. Ms Nash has been meeting them weekly on Zoom and they really miss the children and coming into school to see everyone.

Our TAs urge you to follow government guidelines on staying safe so that we can all be back together soon. ☺

