

# THE ELMHURST TIMES

Happy New Year! We look forward to the year ahead with vaccines being rolled out and hope for a brighter year.



Let your smile change the world but don't let the world change your smile.

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### BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

### MS SILVERWOOD IN THE HOT SEAT

### YEAR 5 SHARE THEIR YUMMY RECIPES

### SOME FUN WEBSITES TO KEEP YOU BUSY

### LOTS OF AMAZING WORK FROM YEAR 6, 3 AND 1

## Elmhurst helping each other

As we all know, this past year has been one of the toughest yet. For many of us we will be worried about our friends and family and hoping they are safe from the virus but sadly for others, they will also be worrying about how to make sure they can feed their families or pay their bills.

It has been a challenging time for many and Elmhurst has been supporting some of these vulnerable families. A massive **THANK YOU** to all of you who bought your party bags and raffle tickets, we managed to raise over **£1800** which is going to help vulnerable Elmhurst families in the form of food vouchers.

We want to continue to help and we are in the process of launching a 'Just Giving' fundraising campaign.

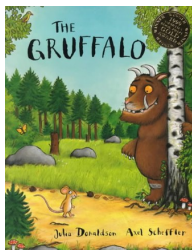
**We need your help!** We want to think of how to raise money in creative, fun and safe ways. This could be a sponsored sport/exercise event, a cook off or even a sponsored silence! Share your ideas with your class teachers and School Councillors and let's work together to make a difference.

Thank you,  
Miss Shaw

# Book reviews

*Ibrahim Sethi, Year 5*

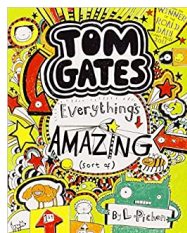
## **The Gruffalo** by Julia Donaldson



The Gruffalo is a rhyming story all about a mouse and a monster. Little mouse goes for a walk in a dangerous forest. To scare off his enemies he invents tales of a fantastical creature called the Gruffalo. SO imagine his surprise when he meets the real Gruffalo. I would rate it an 8/10.

*Aisha Adnan, Year 5*

## **Everything's Amazing (sort of)** by Tom Gates



This story is very engaging. There are very odd characters who do unexpected things.

This book is about a boy and he is always late for school. Additionally he is bad at maths but he is good at writing stories and he has a great imagination.

I would recommend this book because this book is the most interesting book and probably the best book you will ever read.

# **An interview with Ms Silverwood**

*Zoeya Vohora, Year 5*



### **What is it like in school during another lockdown?**

In many ways, this time it's much better as we have more of our wonderful children on site, which makes the building feel more alive. I love hearing the sound of the children talking, laughing and playing. It's been nice getting to know different pupils who I hadn't spoken to before: Abraham in Year 5 has taught me to skip at playtime, Ellison makes me laugh most days, and it has been nice chatting more to Khadija and Saffyah in 4W. I'm also really enjoying the live lessons as you are able to connect with the children a bit more. I've been doing my weekly assembly and having a go at remote teaching though I must say the teachers and pupils know a lot more than me about delivering a live lesson!

**What do you do to keep yourself busy at home when you are not doing school work?**

Good question! I've got two children of my own, so home is busy with playing and looking after them if I'm not working. Over lockdown, we've been keeping the boredom at bay by playing loads of board games like Monopoly, Pictionary and Trivial Pursuit. My son loves to play chess too but he's getting good at that now and always beats me! I've recently discovered a love of jigsaws and got a few 1000 piece ones for Christmas which helps me to switch off and relax. I've also got really good at playing Mario Kart on the Nintendo switch – I'll challenge anyone to a match! I have to get out of the house to make me feel happy, so come rain or shine, I always walk for a few hours every day. If my son is with me then we combine a walk with a Pokémon hunt – you should see my world class Pokémon collection!

**How would you like your students to deal with hard situations during lockdown?**

I would urge them to reach out and talk to someone. I sometimes have days when things seem overwhelming or upsetting. The best thing is to talk it through, maybe with a family member, a friend or a teacher – anyone who you trust. When you talk you find out other people are feeling or experiencing the same. Often it's just good to be listened to as it stops you keeping all those feelings locked inside. As the old proverb goes 'a problem shared is a problem halved'. My other top tip is to try to find the little things in life that make you happy. Every day I try to be thankful for the small things – it might be a lovely hug from my children, a nice meal, sharing a funny joke with a friend, a beautiful flower in the garden – we can all find these little moments in our lives and focusing on these can help us to find the good in this situation.

**What are your favourite children's books?**

Another good question. I've always been an avid reader – I was one of those children who read under the covers at night with a torch. I quite like books that use escapism and take us to fantasy worlds and even places that are a bit sinister – so books like Coraline, or Ottoline and the Yellow cat are firm favourites, as are picture books like The Journey. A classic in this genre is Madeline L'engle's 'A Wrinkle in Time' – I read this as a young child and have loved science fiction ever since. I have a son in Year 4 and I'm really enjoying reading with him – I still read him a story every night. We've read all the Harry Potter books together and we're now working through the His dark Materials trilogy by Phillip Pullman, which are some of the best books I've ever read. For a bit of pure silly humour though, you can't beat the Mr Gum books by Andy Stanton – I adore them – 'The truth is a lemon meringue!' Those of you in Year 4 and 5 know that I'm keen on magazines too – I get weekly deliveries of the Beano and a really brilliant comic called the Phoenix, so come and borrow these any time.

**Where would you like to go first when lockdown is lifted?**

My family live on a farm in South Wales, so this will be the first place I'll visit. I haven't seen my mum and dad for over 6 months so I'm missing them hugely. The farm is a great place to be in the Spring when all the new animals are born – there are usually some lambs, calves or piglets to feed. When I'm there I spend the whole day outside with the animals and playing with my children – we might build a tree swing, dam the stream or go on a long walk around the fields, then back inside for a big family dinner. It's my favourite place to be.

**What is your fondest memory from working in Elmhurst so far?**

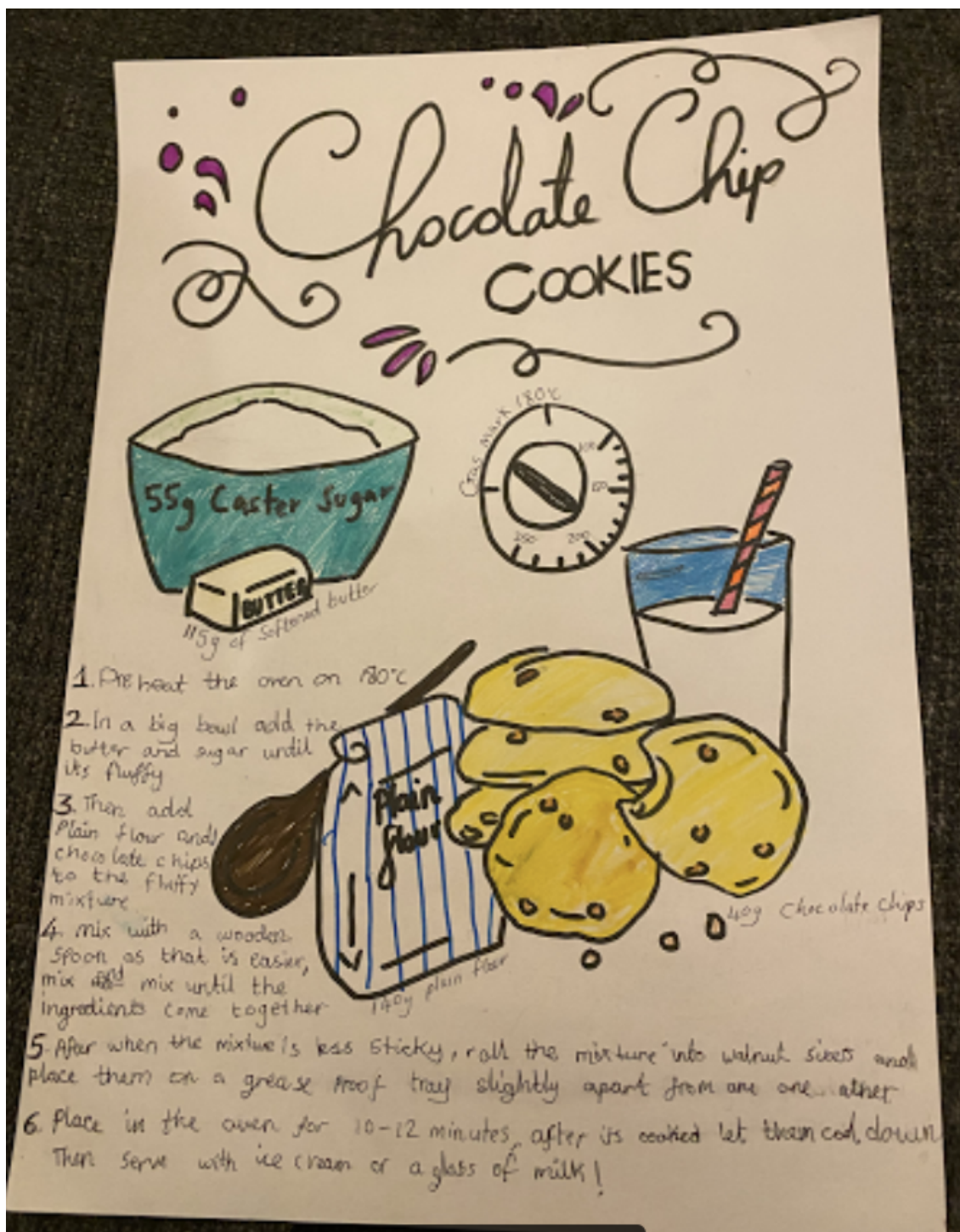
I've been at Elmhurst for over 12 years now from when I started as a trainee teacher, so I have lots of wonderful memories. When I was a new teacher here, we had classroom pets – my class had a stick insect, an African snail and a hamster. I will never forget the tragic loss of Timothy our snail and the lovely, heartfelt messages my class wrote to him. I also love hearing about my past pupils succeeding and flourishing. I used to teach Miss Dona and her big brother Jordan and it makes me really proud to see what wonderful adults they have become – there are so many more who have done brilliant and interesting things. Hearing about your successes in life and playing a small part in that is why we do this job.

# Delicious recipes to try at home

## Year 5 - Creating Recipes

Miss Robinson, Year 5

As part of their instructions unit, Year 5 have made their own recipes for children to follow during the lockdown. Here are some examples:



## My recipe on how to make chocolate crumble by Druvi.

Do you like chocolate crumble? If so, you will 100% enjoy this snack. It's a fun, delicious and award winning treat. But first, you will need to wash your hands thoroughly with soap. Make sure you have a responsible adult's supervision.

### Ingredients:

400g digestive biscuits  
150g milk chocolate  
150g dark chocolate  
100g butter  
75g or half a cup of golden syrup  
70g dried pre-cut apricot  
70g raisins  
Jelly tots  
Smarties

**Equipment:** Mixing spoon, glass bowl, plastic bag, rolling pin, silicone or metal tin (if you don't have any of these, use shallow square tin instead), cling film and a responsible adult.

1. Measure 400g of digestive biscuit on a scale. Place the biscuits in a food bag and using a rolling pin, bash it into tiny pieces. Make sure you don't hurt your fingers.

2. For this step you will parents help. Get water in a pan and put it over a stove. Turn on the stove to get the water boiling and wait until the water simmers. While you are waiting you can add both, 150g of the chocolate into a glass bowl with 100g of butter and 75g or half a cup of golden syrup into the bowl. Once water simmers, put the glass bowl on top of the pan and turn off the gas. While your chocolate mixture is melting, mix it with a mixing spoon. Carry on mixing until the mixture has no lumps and is nice and runny.



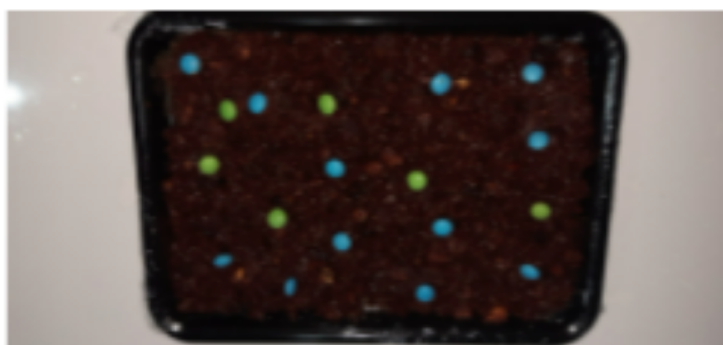
3. When the mixture is melted, remove the bowl from the gas. Ask an adult to help you. Take your bowl to your worktop and add in all the dry ingredients except the smarties and jelly tots and give it a good stir. After, put cling film on the tray. You will have to cut the cling film to the size of your tray.



4. Once you have done that, spoon the mixture using a mixing spoon onto the tray with cling film and spread out the mixture.

5. Using the back of a spoon or a potato masher press down gently on the crumble to make it level and compact.
6. Then, add the jelly tots and smarties for decoration.
7. Put it into the fridge for 2 hours to set.
8. After 2 hours, take it out of the fridge and cut it into squares and enjoy your chocolate crumble.

Here is what your should look like:



### Ingredients For 8:

- ♥ 220g of All Purpose Flour
- ♥ 85g of Cocoa Powder
- ♥ 150g of Sugar
- ♥ 3 tbsp of Baking Powder
- ♥ 1 tbsp of Oil/Melted Butter
- ♥ 2 tbsp of Hot Milk

### HOW TO MAKE A CAKE WITHOUT AN OVEN?

Are YOU interested to bake a cake but YOU are a beginner at BAKING? YES! Well you are in luck since this is a recipe which is easy to make and tasty.

#### **Warning:**

You will need an Adult to help YOU with some steps, please don't put this cake in the fridge and wash your hands before you make this cake for huigine purposes.

### Equipment:

- ♥ Microwavable Bowl
- ♥ A Spoon
- ♥ Sifter
- ♥ Parchment Paper

1. Firstly, you wash your hands thoroughly with soap.



2. Secondly, you sift the All Purpose Flour, Cocoa powder, Sugar and Baking Powder and then mix.



3. Then, you add in melted butter/oil and hot milk.



4. After That, Mix with a spoon to make the batter for the cake.



5. Afterwards, choose a microwavable bowl, grease the edges of the bowl with oil and powder it with flour.



6. After you pour the mixture in that bowl.

7. Now, put the bowl in the microwave for 5-3 minutes.



8. Meanwhile you can melt some chocolate for the icing of the cake. (You need an adult for this and the next part)



9. After 3-5 minutes take the cake out of the microwave with the help of an adult and then let it cool down. If you stick a toothpick in the middle of the cake and it comes out clean the cake is 100% ready.

Sneha, 5R

**Yummy! I can't wait to try these recipes.  
Thank you Year 5.**



## **Keeping busy**

Khadija Adi, Year 4

[www.getepic.com](http://www.getepic.com)



I would recommend you try 'get epic'. It helps you with your learning if you are at home. You can read any book you want, including fiction or non-fiction book. You have the freedom of choice. There are books for all ages. You could even read one to your younger brothers/sisters. It is a great app and it is a great way to pass the time when you want something to do during lockdown.

Dinika Chowdhury, Year 5

[www.bbc.co.uk/games/nightfall](http://www.bbc.co.uk/games/nightfall)



Nightfall is a game where you can defeat all nightmares. It has fast paced multiplayer action too! You even venture deeper into dreams. You can join rooms, play with your friends and change your character into whatever you desire!

Nightfall is suitable for children aged 8-11.

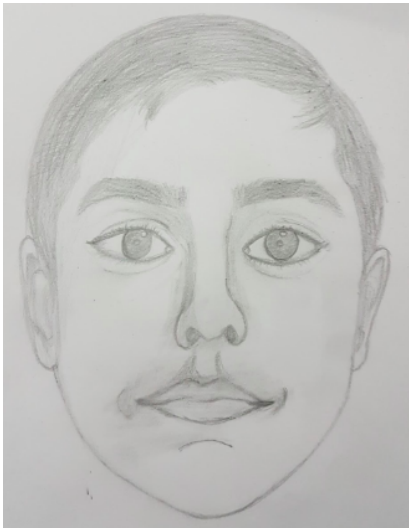
# What you have been up to at home

## Year 6 - Self-portraits

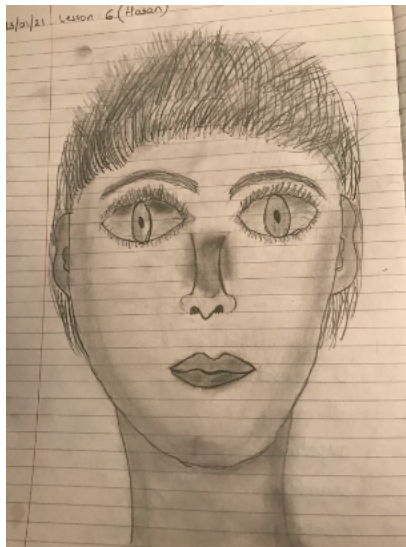
### *Miss Tidmarsh, Year 6*

This half term, Year 6 have been developing self-portraits in Art. We began by studying a range of portraits created by famous artists, considering what we could learn about the subjects from the way they were depicted.

Year 6 then developed their drawing skills in preparation for their own self-portrait. We looked at the proportions of the human face and practised new sketching techniques, such as cross-hatching. Finally, we created our artwork! The Year 6 teachers have so impressed with the brilliant quality of work - so much time and effort went into these drawings and they are so realistic. Great job Year 6 artists!



Mahdi Farhan, 6CF



Hasan Ahmed, 6S



Nusaybah Ali, 6T



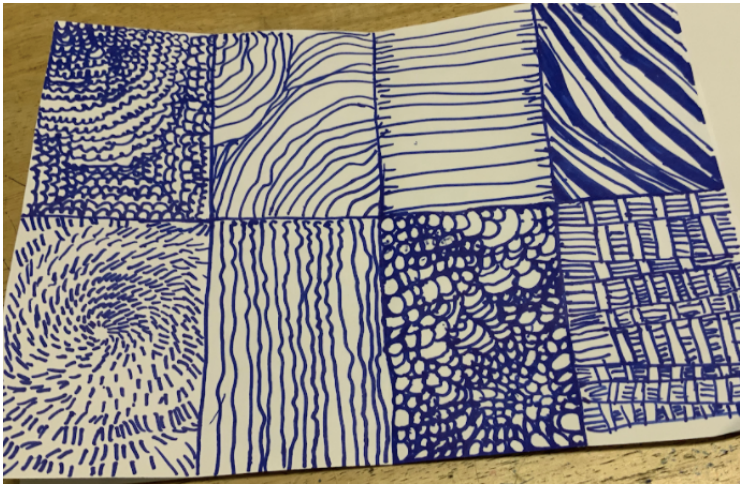
Maryam Patel, 6V

# What you have been up to at home

## Year 3 - Patterns

*Miss Read, Year 3*

Mr Mutter has kindly been doing Art lessons with Year 3 (3K and 3T on Thursdays and 3R and 3A on Fridays). He taught us how to create simple patterns.



Aisha Badat 3R



Mehreen, 3R



Nusaybah Ali, 6T

# What you have been up to at home

## Year 3 - Antarctic landscapes

*Ms Watson, Year 1*

As part of their 'Explorers' topic in Geography, Year 1 are learning about Antarctica and were set the independent task of creating their own Antarctic landscapes.



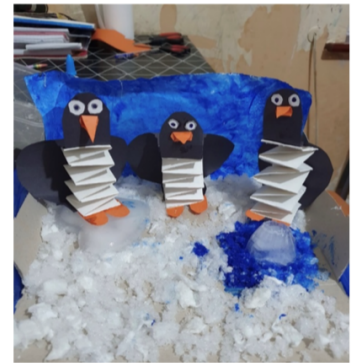
Sumaira  
1W



Ilyas  
1W



Jagoda  
1N



Afrin  
1N



Billal  
1C



Subhan Patel  
1C



Ayza  
1S



Laiba  
1S

WOW, fantastic work from Year 6,  
Year 3 and Year 1!

If you would like your work to feature  
in next term's newsletter, let your  
School Councillor or class teacher  
know.

