



Head teacher's forward

Dear Families,

I hope that you are all keeping well and looking forward to the Christmas break coming up next week.

This first term back has been a successful one, with the school recently being officially HMC accredited after a stringent application and verification process starting in the summer. The official certificate is displayed in the school's reception and the school will continue to receive unannounced checks. Many thanks to our parent Mr Yahya Musa who facilitated the process.

I am delighted to share with you that Elmhurst's Cleaning Team has been shortlisted as finalists in the Education Category for the prestigious Kimberly Clark Golden Service Awards. This is a testament to the hard work of the whole cleaning team under the excellent leadership of head cleaner Lucy and some long- standing staff such as Brenda & Urmilla. The awards ceremony will be held at the London Hilton on Park Lane on Thursday 23rd May 2024 -fingers crossed that we win!

On 7th December we received an Art Ofsted visit by national Art & Design HMI, Adam Vincent. This was a voluntary visit but welcomed by the school as an opportunity for further growth. It went very well; Mr Vincent praised the schools for its well thought out curriculum and approach to teaching Art & Design. Congratulations in particular to Mr Andrew Mutter, our Art consultant, who has made a massive contribution in this subject.

Congratulations to our Years 5/ 6 Mixed Indoor Cricket team who were crowned Newham champions on 7th December – I am so pleased that the school continues its rich legacy of excellence in Cricket.

As the holidays draw near, it is important to keep stoking the reading for pleasure flames so that children keep enjoying reading over the two- week break. We have had some fantastic author visits recently to inspire our young readers such as J.J Arcanjo who writes the Crookhaven books. I hope that families have enjoyed looking at our new corridor displays – please follow the bar codes of the reading display outside the library corridor to find out which books are teachers' favourites.

There have been many lovely assemblies this half term, most recently the year 3 Light assembly which incorporated learning about 3 major festivals. Some of the highlights are still to come – the Nursery nativity assembly which is one of my personal favourites as well as the Christmas Show on Tuesday 19th December so please do come and support the children.

We are saying goodbye to some members of our office team including Kareen Bankale and Ayesha Sahebodin. We thank them both for their service and wish them every future success- Ayesha in particular has been in the office for several years as the schools Admissions/Attendance and Family Support Worker and has been super- efficient and effective. We welcome two new members of staff – Mr Ishraq Ahmed to replace Ms Sahebodin and Ms Noshein Hakim in reception.

Wishing all of our families a fantastic Christmas break – I hope that it is a relaxing and positive one. Merry Christmas to our school community who celebrate this festival. Thank you to our children and staff who have worked so hard all term, it remains a real privilege to serve the school as Headteacher.

Kind regards,
Sukwinder Samra



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

What have we been up to	2—10
Christmas at Elmhurst	6— 7
Scoreboard	11
Notices	2—13
Calendar	14

Up coming events

Thursday 4th January 2024

First day of term

Wednesday 17 January

Y6 Trip - Tate and Lyle
Citizenship trip

Monday 29th January

Year 5 Trip to Theatre Show

Monday 5th February

Yr 6 Mock sats week

Friday 9th February

Last day of spring term 1

[Autumn 1 2023](#) / [End of year 2023](#) / [Summer 1 2023](#) /

[Spring 2023](#) / [Autumn 2022](#)

Autumn term 2

Dear Families,

We are excited to announce that our **Christmas show will be taking place Today** in the school theatre. The show will start promptly at **3.30 pm** and is expected to run for approximately 45 minutes.

We have a wonderful lineup of performances lined up for you, including the school choir, dance club, French club, clarinet and flute students. Plus, there will be a special surprise performance from our amazing staff!

This event is free of charge, so there is no need for tickets. Simply come along and find a seat in the theatre after school. Please note that for the comfort and safety of everyone, small children should sit on laps, and Elmhurst children will be asked to sit at the front on the floor to ensure that we can accommodate all attendees.

We are eagerly looking forward to seeing you at our festive show!

Warm regards,

Miss Cowley

What have we been up to?



Year 4 science museum trip

Year 4 were thrilled to visit the Science Museum as part of their in-depth exploration into the topic of 'Animals, including humans' and explore the Wonderlab at the museum.

The 'It Takes Guts' show proved to be a resounding success among our young learners, as it offered an immersive and interactive experience. The show delved into the intricate process of human digestion. The children were engaged from start to finish, absorbing valuable insights into how the human body processes food. The show comprehensively covered the various organs involved in digestion and explained the vital roles each organ plays in this complex process.

One of the key takeaways for our pupils was gaining a deeper understanding of the functions of organs within the human body. This hands-on experience served to enhance their knowledge in a fun and memorable way, aligning perfectly with our commitment to making learning an enjoyable journey.

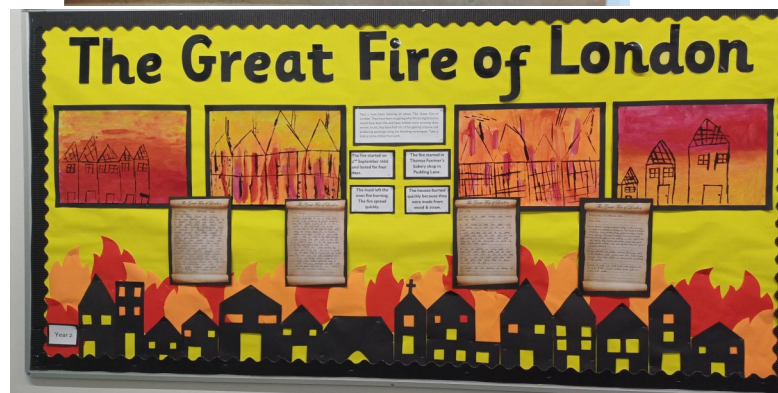
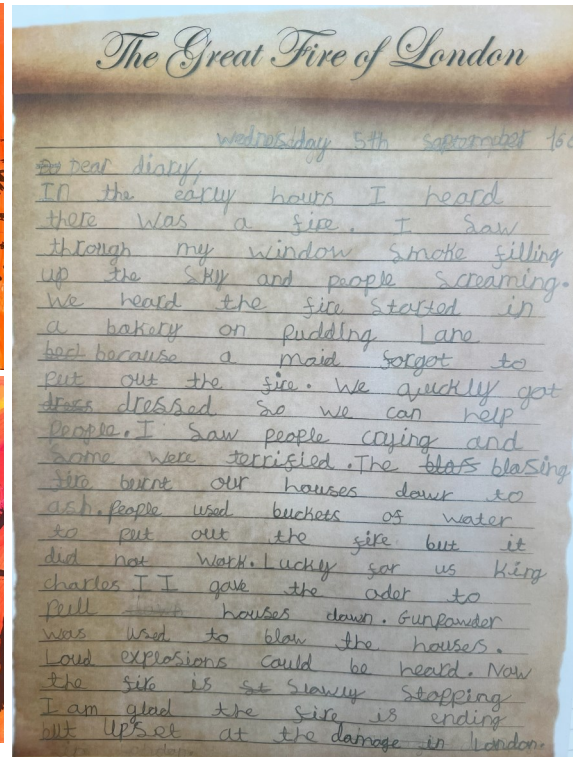
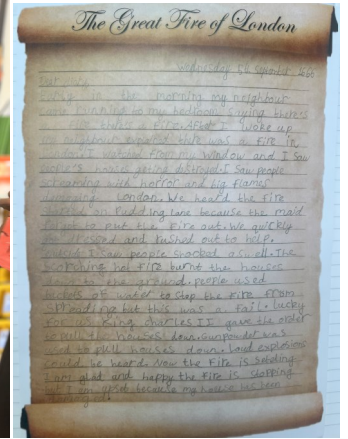
Additionally, our Year 4 pupils had the privilege of exploring the renowned Wonderlab at the Science Museum. This interactive space provided them with the opportunity to engage in a variety of hands-on activities, reinforcing their scientific knowledge and curiosity. From experimenting with friction on slides to unravelling the mysteries of electricity through numerous circuit boards, the Wonderlab offered a diverse range of experiences that left our pupils enthralled.

The trip to the Science Museum not only enriched our pupils' understanding of the human body and scientific concepts, but also ignited a passion for exploration and discovery.



Year 2—Great fire of london

This term, Year 2 have been learning all about the fascinating history of the Great Fire of London. The event that occurred in 1666 and was a catastrophic blaze that swept through the city, destroying a large part of it. Children enthusiastically explored how it all started, the impact the fire caused and the effects after it. They wrote engaging diary entries and showcased their artistic talents by creating fantastic fiery artwork.



Year 5 & 6 Athletics

On 22nd November our year 5 & 6 athletics team went to Langdon school to compete in the Newham Primary Schools Athletics Tournament. Elmhurst students had a great day out competing against 16 different schools. The team worked really well together and supported each other throughout the different sport divisions. All students had a turn competing in the relay races and we were able to win 3 out of 4 races that we competed in. Overall we were placed 10th out of all the schools.



Elmhurst athletics team

Nuh	5H	Chest push
Liyaana	6F	Speed Bounce
Andrada	6K	Chest Push
Ishika	6F	Speed Bounce
Sufyan	6S	Sprinting
Ariana	6s	Sprinting
Aiman	5H	Throwing/Jumping
Mehreen	6F	Javalin
Het	6S	Long Jump
Yaqub	6S	Sprinting
Dhanvi	6F	Sprinting
Krishna	5C	Sprinting
Marwan	5H	Speed Bounce
Markiian	6K	Long Jump
Yusuf	6K	Long Jump
Bianca	6SF	Long Jump
Shazfa	6SF	Sprinting
Hunain	6SF	Javalin

Cricket

We are delighted to inform you that our children participated in a cricket match held at Langdon School on Thursday 7th December. We are proud to announce that our team achieved an outstanding victory, securing the first position among the eight schools that took part in the competition.

Our students displayed exceptional teamwork, dedication, and skill throughout the tournament. We are immensely proud of their achievement and the positive manner in which they represented our school.



Year 1—Guru Nanak's Assembly

We are excited to share the wonderful experience of our Year 1 pupils participating in the Guru Nanak assembly. They did a fantastic job, acting with enthusiasm, singing beautifully, and showcasing an impressive Punjabi dance. We want to express our gratitude to all the parents who attended. Your presence meant a lot and added to the special atmosphere. Thanks for being a part of these memorable moments with us.



Author Visit

Elmhurst was honoured to welcome award-winning author Onjali Rauf

Ms Rauf, who spoke at the school ahead of the publication of her new book *Where Magic Grows*, had the children enthralled as she talked to them about her childhood, her writing and her inspirational charity work with refugees. The writer, herself a Newham resident - she attended Nelson Primary as a child, which is part of the same Trust as Elmhurst - also stayed to sign more than 100 books for our pupils. The visit came after a long build up, which saw the children enjoy learning about Ms Rauf and reading her books in both class and assemblies.

They were so excited to meet her and were bursting with questions by the end. At Elmhurst, we think author visits are a wonderful way to get children excited about reading and writing. In just the last year, we have been thrilled to welcome Sir Lenny Henry, Sufiya Ahmed, Sathnam Sanghera and now Onjali Rauf. We also hosted JJ Arcanjo, author of the *Crookhaven* series who was highly engaging.



Christmas at Elmhurst

Elmhurst Christmas carollers

Friday 8th December

The Elmhurst Choir took the stage on the 8th of December to sing some Christmas songs before the Queen's Market Christmas light switch on. They were all very brave as they sang in front of a massive audience of parents, teachers, market stall holders and the general public. They then enjoyed some great activities in partnership with Queen's Market where they could enjoy, Santa's Grotto, outdoor performances and face painting.



Year 3 - festival of lights

Wednesday 6th December

This year our year 3 students performed a wonderful assembly all about 'light'. How light is important and symbolic in the festivals of 'Diwali', 'Hanukkah' and 'Christmas'. They performed confidently and retold the story of Rama and Sita being guided home by the row of lights. For Hanukkah they explained how Jewish people believe it was a miracle from God that the oil from the lamp lasted for 8 days. And how the light from the stars guiding people to where Jesus was born is part of the Christmas story. The important message they shared was that light represented guidance, strength and hope. In addition that we as individuals could also be light in each others' lives too by caring, respecting and supporting each other.



Nursery Nativity

Monday 18th December

Our Nursery students put on an amazing and festive Nativity assembly. They worked really hard to learn their lines and were so brave and confident on the day. Thank you to all parents who supported their children during this special of performances. We know all parents have been practising songs at home as well as encouraging our very young students to be brave and have a go! The children were truly the stars of the day along with the parents who were amazing audiences during both sessions! Thank you very-very much and have a peaceful holiday!



Christmas Dinner

Thursday 14th December

Christmas Menu

Main

Non Halal

Roast Turkey with Chipolata and sage and onion

Halal

Roast Chicken with Chipolata and sage and onion

Vegetarian

Samosas

Spinach and Feta Whirls

Sides

Stuffing

Roast Potatoes

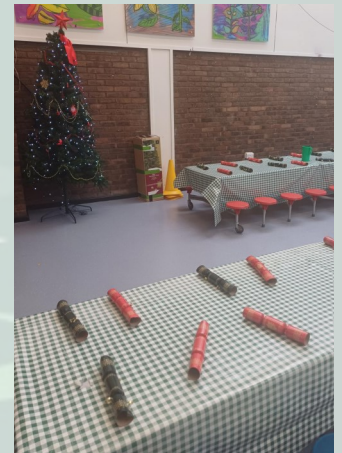
Glazed Honey Parsnips carrots and Peas

Dessert

Christmas pudding with Custard

Spiced Apple festive with Custard

Christmas Ice Cream



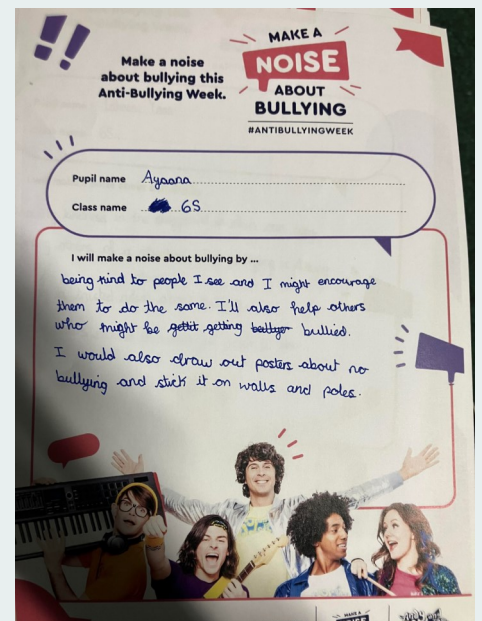
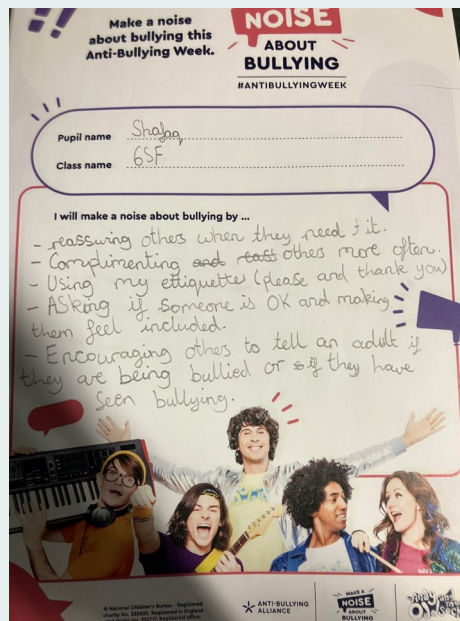
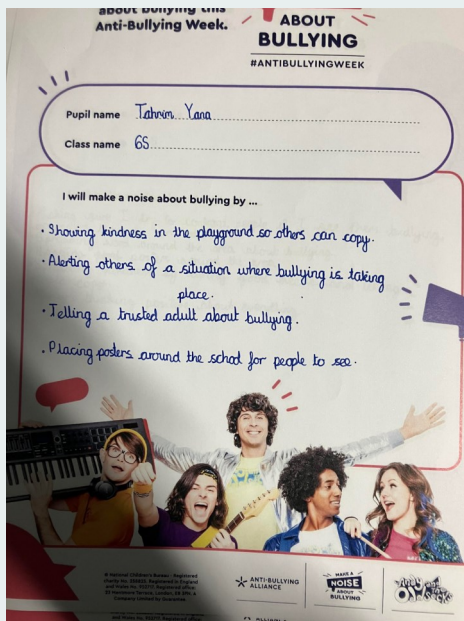
Anti Bullying week



On 13th-19th November we had our anti-bullying week. Every year we try to raise awareness of bullying and this year as led by the Anti-bullying Alliance, our theme was 'Make a Noise'. We wanted to encourage our children to call out bullying that they may be seeing either in school, on the playground, outside of school or even online.

What happened in anti-bullying week?

We kicked the week off with our usual Odd Socks Day, in which children came into school wearing Odd Socks to celebrate how great it is that we are unique and different from one another. In our anti-bullying lesson, children discussed what sort of things we can do to show kindness, especially if someone is being bullied. We also made pledges about all the things we would do to reach out and stop bullying, by creating a kind, caring environment in the school. Here are photos of some year 6 children's pledges detailing how they are going to stand up to bullying.



We also had some lovely quotes about how to manage bullying from year one. Here are a selection:

1A

"If someone is bullying someone you have to say, stop, that's not nice, that's not fair. That's not a good thing to do."

"When someone is bullying another child, I will tell a teacher."

"We can help children if someone is pushing and hitting them."

"When someone is lonely, I will play with them."

1FA

"You can use kind words when talking about bullying."

"We can protest if something is wrong and no one is listening to you."

"We can watch good role models and be like them."



During assembly, children looked at our school council's definition and discussed the types of bullying that exist. We discussed physical, verbal and social bullying. One thing children were also particularly vocal about was cyber bullying and the types of things this can include such as nasty messages, sharing inappropriate messages/photos, spreading rumours or if someone is telling others to ignore or not play with someone else online.

In year six, this week the children are studying the text 'Booked', in which the main character, Nick, is bullied. We discussed the things that make Don and Dean bullies and the class made a fantastic definition of what they think bullying is generally:

"A bully is a person that bullies another many times, physically or mentally or verbally. Physical may be punching them, slapping them or kicking and pushing them. Anything that is physically hurting them. Verbal or mental bullying may be calling them names. In the text the twins 'bark' at Coby, meaning they are saying aggressive things to him. Bullying is repetitive, it happens again and again. There is also cyber bullying where for example you could be on an app or social media and people can call you names or comments and won't leave you alone. They could also threaten you."

How will we address bullying in the future?

This year we are making some changes. Research last year found that children didn't always feel supported in conflicts during break by their peers and as a result arguments often happen. Staff have also noted that children find it hard to manage their feelings and communicate with others when they disagree or have a dispute. Based on this, we are going to be introducing a new role of 'mediators' to help manage issues between children on the playground. We will be training up 20 year 5 children to support them with managing conflicts, as well as looking out for those who are upset or alone. In addition, we will be having assemblies on conflict resolution, the difference between banter and bullying and how to express and manage our emotions. We hope these initiatives will create a kinder, more supportive anti-bullying environment at the school.

For more information on the school's approach to bullying, please see our anti-bullying policy by following the [link](#) on our website.



**You MUST report
bullying if you think
it is happening**



Year 6 Docklands trip

On Wednesday 29th November, year 6 visited the London Docklands Museum near Canary Wharf. This allowed the children to further their understanding of the Transatlantic Slave Trade which they have been studying in their history lessons. Several exhibits, such as the long list of enslaved people's names and the traps and torture devices, really caught their attention and enabled them to empathise more personally with the plight of enslaved people. This made an abstract period of history more tangible and relatable. The children were very responsible, well-behaved and made thoughtful responses to the subject-matter.

Nursery story time

We wanted to take the time to thank each and every one of you who joined us on the 14th for the special bedtime reading session. It was truly heartwarming to see so many parents engaging with their children and sharing the joy of reading together.

The purpose of the session was to encourage a love for reading and to demonstrate to the children the value that parents place on reading and story sessions. We believe that these shared experiences have a profound impact on children's literacy development and overall enjoyment of reading.

We were delighted to provide hot chocolate and biscuits for the children during the session. It was a small treat to make the experience even more enjoyable for them. We hope that this added touch added to the warmth and comfort of the event.



Times Tables Rockstars



If you don't know your log in details please speak to your class teacher.

Elmhurst Leadership board

First Place: Yahya 3A – 249,969

Second Place: Mehaj 5O - 149,114

Third Place: Karanveer 5O -126,053



Class Dojo



Elmhurst Leadership board

Highest Score		
EYS	Manjinder- RL	20
Year 1	Aalya - 1A	52
Year 2	Anya - 2H	57
	Devanshi - 2H	57
Year 3	Mohtasib 3TW	51
Year 4	Adam - 4V	57
Year 5	Owaise - 5C	67
Year 6	Saleem - 6s	206

First Place: 6S - 4405

Second Place: 2H - 1219

Third Place: 4WS - 1124



Notices



School Attendance

Regular school attendance not only contributes to academic success but also helps build essential life skills. To enhance your child's attendance, consider establishing a consistent morning routine, ensuring they get adequate rest, and fostering a positive attitude towards school. Communicate openly with your child about the value of education and the opportunities it provides. Celebrate their achievements, both big and small, to reinforce the positive aspects of their school experience. By working together to prioritise attendance, we can provide your child with a strong foundation for future success.

School attendance is central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential. The government has set a target of 95% attendance for all pupils. This rate allows for periods of illness or particular circumstances when absence from school is unavoidable. However, not every illness needs to keep your child from school. We trust your judgement as a parent to see whether your child is too ill to attend school and consider if your child well enough to carry out activities of the school day or if your child have a condition that could be passed to others.

Please book non-emergency appointments outside of school hours if possible. If unavoidable, please do avoid keeping your child at home for the whole day should the appointment only take a small portion of the school day.

Accessing GP appointments

We understand that there is difficulty getting an appointment with the GP. Should you need immediate medical assistance, please contact 111 and the call handler can direct you to the best place to get help if you cannot contact your GP during the day, or when your GP is closed (out-of-hours). Depending on what you need.

Administering Medication at School

If your child is recovering and they are fit to attend school, the school can administer medication for you on your behalf. This includes prescribed eye drops/paracetamol/antibiotics. You can visit the office to provide the medication and sign off consent to administer this to your child. This is to ensure your child is not missing out on vital lessons.



NEWHAM FOOTBALL COACHING COURSE

AT: NEWHAM LEISURE CENTRE, 281 PRINCE REGENT LANE, E13 8S

Every Monday

STARTING: Monday 8th January 2024

(PLEASE NOTE CHILDREN CAN JOIN COURSE AFTER START DATE CONTACT NUMBER FOR MORE INFO)

MONDAYS: Group 1 : School Years Reception & Year 14.00pm-5.00pm
Group2 : School Years 2 and 3.....5.00pm-6.00pm
Group 3 : School Years 4, 5 & Years 66.00pm-7.00pm

AT: NEWHAM LEISURE CENTRE, 281 PRINCE REGENT LANE, E13 8SD

Every Wednesday

STARTING: Wednesday 10th January 2024

(PLEASE NOTE CHILDREN CAN JOIN COURSE AFTER START DATE CONTACT NUMBER FOR MORE INFO)

WEDNESDAYS: Group 1 : School Years Reception & Year 14.00pm-5.00pm
Group2 : School Years 2 and 3.....5.00pm-6.00pm
Group 3 : School Years 4, 5 & Years 66.00pm-7.00pm

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to inform you that, due to the huge success of our football courses over the last **24 years**, we are following up the football coaching programme for the season. The course will run for 12-14 weeks and the programme is for boys and girls aged between 4 and 12.

About our Course

- The unique practice techniques are specifically designed to work with children of all abilities, ranging from the absolute beginner to the more advanced player.
- The course is run by **F.A qualified coaches**, who are **DBS checked**, and hold an advanced premier skills qualification, they are currently working with children, enabling them to learn **ESSENTIAL FOOTBALL TECHNIQUES**, building **CONFIDENCE**, improving **FITNESS** and providing the most important ingredient **FUN!**
- Children will be supervised at all times, although parents are welcome to stay and watch.
- Each child will be provided with a football for individual practice.
- It is an **OUTDOOR** course held on Football Pitches, therefore trainers or boots can be worn. We have a sports hall in case of bad weather.
- On the final week of the course we hold a presentation, whereby **EACH CHILD WILL RECEIVE AN ENGRAVED TROPHY.**
- Ex Premier League Birmingham City, West Bromwich Albion and Fulham player Geoff Horsfield** quotes, "I've coached on these courses with the team and they are fantastic in the way they deliver their coaching sessions!"
- Ex England World Cup star and Sky Sports pundit Paul Merson** quotes, "I have presented trophies to the children on these courses and it's great to see the smiles on their faces and sense of achievement!"
- Children also have a chance to win many other special individual awards and trophies for various skills, including 'American shoot out' and 'Penalty shoot out' competitions.
- Parents and friends are most welcome to attend the presentation.
- The cost of the course is £8.50 per week; payment is made every 4 weeks with the first payment of £34 due on week 1. **Please Note:** Places are limited, therefore bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis.

www.prosoccercoaching.org

TO RESERVE PLACES PLEASE TEXT:

NEWHAM MONDAY or NEWHAM WEDNESDAY + CHILD'S NAME + AGE + GROUP NO. (1, 2, 3 or 4)

and receive confirmation by text to: 07456 098 547

Uniform shop

SUPERSCHOOLSHOP.COM

Take me to where I can buy my official school uniform for **Elmhurst Primary School**

PARENTS Scan this code using your smart phone or tablet

View the full range and much more for home delivery

superschoolshop.com
email: mail@superschoolshop.com

Elmhurst Primary Little seeds, big dreams

Elmhurst Primary Little seeds, big dreams



Your safety and well-being are important to us

At Elmhurst Primary all of our staff and governors are fully committed to safeguarding our pupils against harm.

Our designated safe guarding leads are:



Jane Nash
Assistant Head
Safeguarding lead



Katharine Young
Deputy Head
Safeguarding Deputy

Please talk to us or any member of our leadership team if you have a concern about a child's safety



Miss E Turner



Miss K Roberts



Mrs S Islam



Ms S Samra

Contacts:

Newham Mash: 02083734600 / 02084302000

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

Childline: 0800 111 www.childline.org

Childnet international - online safety: www.childnet.com

LIMITED SPACES

ELMHURST PRIMARY SCHOOL

WINTER HOLIDAY CLUB

2023

Activities

- Origami
- Calligraphy
- Crochet
- Arabic Speaking
- Football
- Self Defence
- Archery

Activities subject to change

Special Activities

- Zoolab
- Baking
- Smoothie Making
- Art through emotions workshop

Parent/Child Workshop

- Healthy eating with a health improving practitioner

SCAN TO REGISTER

<https://eequ.org/experience/4273>

FREE for those receiving Free School Meals

26-29 December

Tue - Fri
10AM - 3PM

Elmhurst Primary School
Upton Park Road
London, E7 8JY

Free Hot lunches provided to all students

For more information, call 07940 700 637

School Clubs

Breakfast club:

Our breakfast starts at 7.45am and is held in the Sarkaria wing. We offer cereal, fruit, milk, and bagels every day. If you would like your child to attend Breakfast Club, please call the school office to enquire whether there are spaces.

After school clubs:

We have a huge range of after-school clubs on offer at Elmhurst, most of which are from 3.30pm until 4.30pm and are **free of charge**. We are proud to offer such a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Places in these clubs are limited, so please speak to the office to find out if spaces are available.

Language clubs: Gujarati, Punjabi and Bengali.

Sports clubs: Dance, Football, Cricket, Handball, Hockey and Multi-skills.

Other clubs: Choir, Timetables, Science, keyboard, Shakespeare, debating, and handwriting.

Morning clubs: Mr Ben also runs morning sports clubs for the football teams.

Saturday club: In addition to the weekday clubs, Mr Ben also runs a Saturday morning multi-skills club, developing children's fitness levels.

<https://elmhurstprimary.co.uk/parents/clubs/>

Family Support

[Spring time menu](#) | [Useful links](#) | [Letter request](#)

SCHOOL TERMS**Autumn**

Tuesday 5 September 2023 to
Friday 20th October 2023

Autumn

Tuesday 31st October 2023 to
Wednesday 20th December 2023

Spring

Thursday 4 January 2024 to
Friday 9 February 2024

Spring

Monday 19 February 2024 to
Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer

Monday 15th April 2024 to
Friday 24 May 2024

Summer

Monday 3rd June 2024 to
Friday 19th July 2024

PUPIL HOLIDAYS**Half Term**

Monday 23rd October 2023 to Friday
27th October 2023

STAFF INSET DAYS

Friday 1 September 2023 &
Monday 4th September 2023

Christmas Break

Thursday 21 December 2023 to Wednesday
3 January 2024

Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall within the
Christmas Break

STAFF INSET DAY

Monday 30th October 2023

Spring Break**Half Term**

Monday 12 February 2024 to
Friday 16 February 2024

Spring Break

Friday 29th March 2024 to Friday
12th April 2024

The Easter religious festival falls within the spring
break

STAFF MAT INSET DAY: Monday 26 February
2024

Half Term

Monday 27 May 2024 to
Friday 31 May 2024

May Day

Monday 6 May 2024

Summer Break

Monday 22nd July 2024 to
To be advised



Elmhurst Primary school
Upton park road
Forest gate
London
E7 8JY

Tel: 020 8472 1062
Fax: 020 8470 8046
Email: info@elmhurst.newham.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Shahed Ahmed
Head of School: Sukwinder Samra
SENCo: Jane Nash

