

# Elm Green Newsletter



September 11th 2022

Autumn Term Issue 1

## Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022



Coronation—2nd June 1953

Following the very sad news of the passing of our sovereign lady, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Elm Green's thoughts and prayers are with the Royal Family and the entire country at such a momentous time in our history. At school, we will be paying our respects to a remarkable head of state, leader and matriarch in the days ahead

Queen Elizabeth succeeded to the throne in 1952 when she was 25 years old but before that, on her 21st birthday, she announced 'I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service.'

Earlier this year, we celebrated her Platinum Jubilee in school and recognised an extraordinary life of dedicated service to her country, the Commonwealth and beyond as she fulfilled that promise.

## September 19th 2022—State Funeral—National Bank Holiday

The Department for Education (DfE) has just issued guidelines to all educational settings regarding the period of National Mourning. This time of National Mourning will continue until the end of the State Funeral on **Monday 19th September 2022**. This day will be a bank holiday and all schools are expected to close on that day as a mark of respect to Her Majesty and the Royal Family.

Other than the bank holiday itself, normal attendance at school is expected unless leave of absence is requested for exceptional circumstances. The children and staff will have many opportunities to reflect on Her Majesty's life and commitment to the country and beyond, and to send their condolences to the Royal Family in addition to looking ahead as King Charles III succeeds to the throne.

## Diary Changes

We will re-schedule the Y2 Curriculum Meeting planned for 19th September in school. The DfE have also indicated that educational settings where selective testing is planned for 19th September are being advised to work with their admission authorities and test providers to find alternative date/s. I am sure that information will be circulated as soon as possible and we will also advise parents whenever we receive any relevant information regarding this. **All peripatetic music lessons will start this week as planned.**

Our Y1 Curriculum Meeting scheduled for **Monday 12th September** and our Y4 Curriculum Meeting scheduled for **Tuesday 13th September** will go ahead as planned. Both meetings will be in the Library. We have limited parking for parents on the lower playground at school because construction work on the tennis court continues! Please drive carefully down Parsonage Lane on those mornings.

## Welcome Back

We have been delighted to welcome our new Kindergarten children, together with a few older students Emaan-5W, Harrison-4M and Freddie-1C into school. They all seem to be settling quickly and successfully and will, I am sure, soon be part of the Elm Green community.

We have also been delighted to welcome Mrs Cussell as our new Head of Music and Drama at the school. She brings a wealth of experience, energy and enthusiasm for her subject to the school. Mrs Allen also returns to Elm Green after several years away; she is taking on a new and important role as our Wellbeing Co-ordinator and PSHCEE lead. She will work closely with our Learning Support Department. Miss Green also joins us as a Learning Support Assistant in the Pre-Prep Department. I am sure that you will also warmly welcome them all into the Elm Green family.

## Summer Works to the Swimming Pool and the Tennis Court

The swimming pool was successfully re-lined over the summer break and despite delays and minor difficulties, we were fortunate to have this back in use at the start of term. However, the conversion of the tennis court to a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) has been subject to considerable delay due to COVID outbreaks and problems with the supply chain. We remain uncertain of a completion date but it is getting close! The picture below was taken on August 31st ...the day before the start of term! Our children have been very patient and sensible whilst such a large part of their play area is 'out of bounds.'



## Congratulations, Well Done and Thank You to our Year 6 Leavers

Our students who left Year 6 last term raised an amazing £2,728 for their charities last year. The charities that were selected were 'Spirit of the Dog', The RNLI and Diabetes UK. Cheques for over £909 have been posted off to each charity and we would like to thank everyone involved. We also wish all of our previous students every success and great happiness in their new schools.

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