ELM ACADEMY

Newsletter

Principal's Message

This week has been an extraordinary one in Elm, filled with moments of pride, joy, and celebration. The children have returned with fantastic energy, and it has been wonderful to see them settle straight back into learning and routines.

On Monday, we had the privilege of celebrating a very important moment for Gabi in Year 3 as he rang the bell to mark the end of his cancer treatment. It was an emotional and uplifting occasion, and we are all incredibly proud of his strength, resilience, and positivity. The whole school community shared in this special moment with him.

Adding to the excitement, we welcomed a surprise visitor—Bluey! Bluey joined us to help officially open our beautiful new Nursery outdoor area. The children were absolutely thrilled, and it made the opening feel even more magical. The new space is already proving to be a wonderful addition to our Early Years provision.

We would like to say a very special thank you to Mrs Cross, who has now become a weekly volunteer in Year 2. She has been spending time hearing children read and supporting the class on school trips, and she has already made a fantastic difference. We are incredibly grateful for the time, care, and enthusiasm she brings each week.

Volunteers play such an important role in enriching school life. If you feel you have some time to offer and would like to support in school—whether through reading, helping in class, or assisting on trips—please contact the main office to find out how to get involved.

Upcoming Events

Monday 2nd March -Friday 6th March - Careers Week

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Monday 9th March - Year 6 London Trip

Wednesday 11th March - Reception Height and weight

Thursday 19th March - Year 3 Egyptian Workshop

Thursday 26th March - End of term discos

Friday 27th March - Last day of term

Monday 13th April - Pupils` first day back

Reminders

Weather Preparation: As the weather changes, please make sure your child dresses appropriately for the temperature. Layers are a good idea!

Water Bottles: Please ensure all children bring to school a labelled refillable water bottle.

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Nursery







We've had such an exciting start to the new half term in Nursery! Our brand-new playground has officially opened, and the children have loved exploring the new astro turf and getting creative in the mud kitchen. We also had a very special arrival this week—our duck eggs! The children were thrilled to experience the magical moment of watching our very first duckling hatch, all together. What a wonderful week of learning and happy memories!



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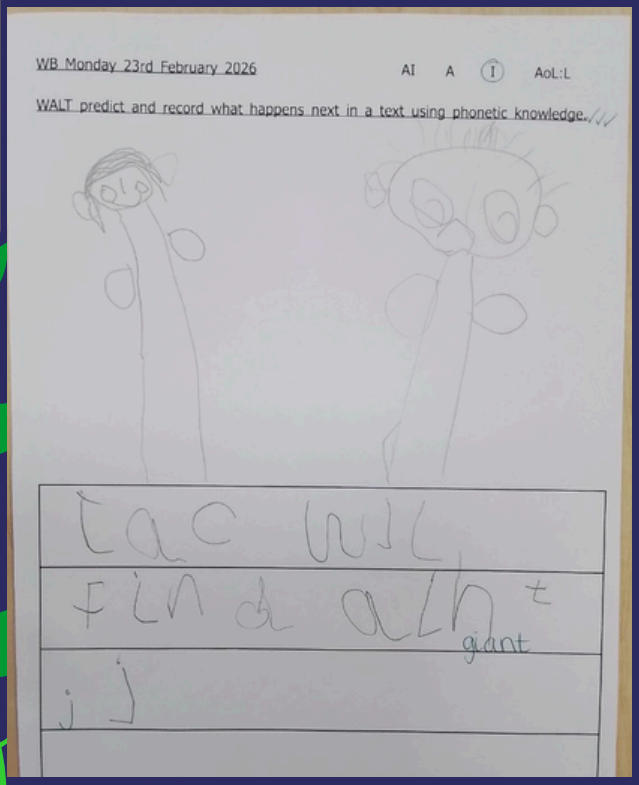
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Reception

In reception, our book of the week is Jack and the Beanstalk! In literacy, we have been drawing and writing predictions about what we think is going to be at the top of the beanstalk! We have also had fun creating our own beanstalks using different materials!







We have also been lucky enough to visit the ducklings in Nursery! We have patiently waited for them to hatch and are very excited to watch them grow over the next week!

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Year 1



Over half term Year 1 children have completed some amazing home learning projects linked to their science learning about seasons.

















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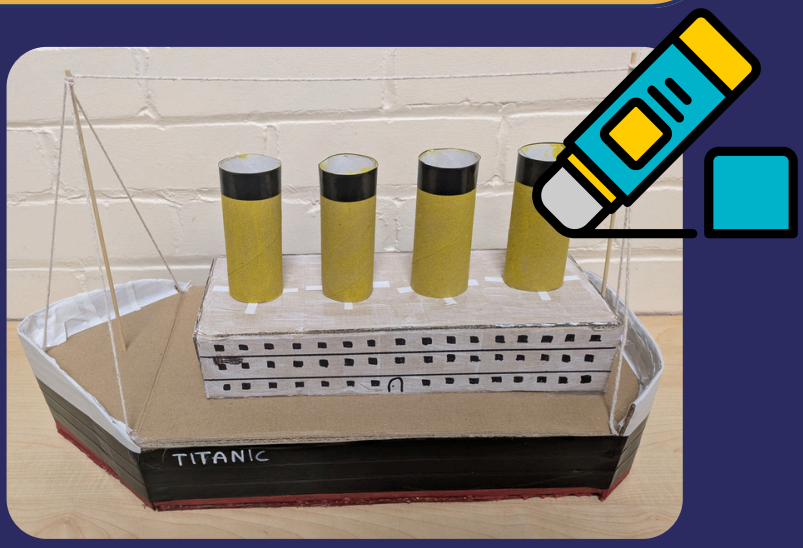
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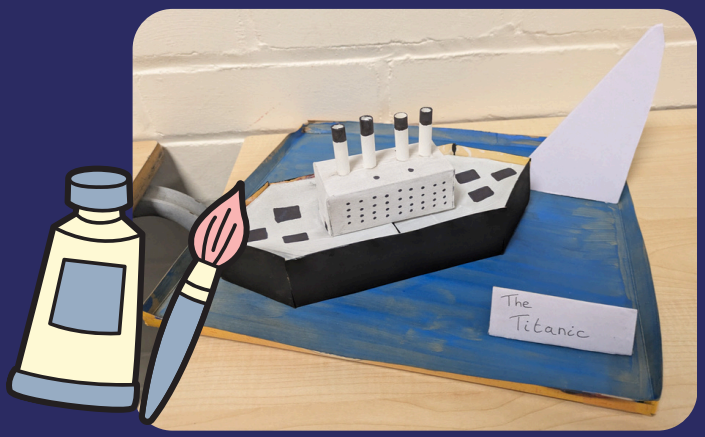
Year 2



Year 2 have had an exciting first week back launching their new history unit all about the Titanic. Over half term there was some lovely home learning projects created that the children are all really proud of.



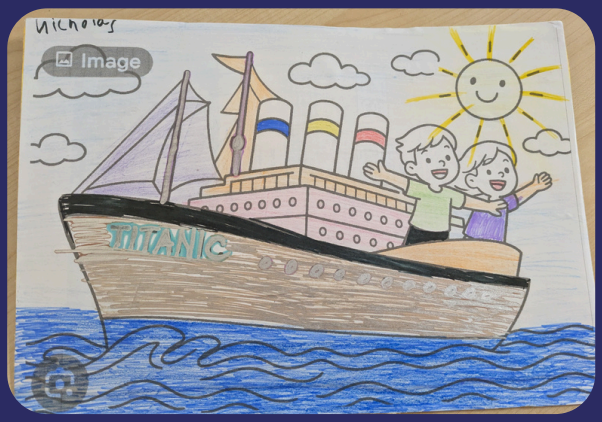












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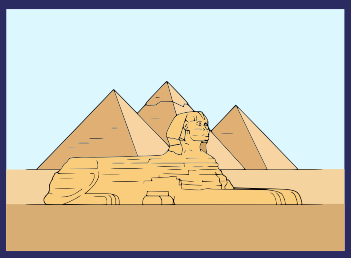
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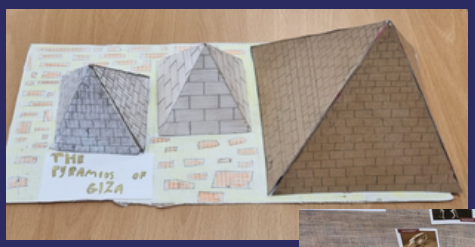
Year 3



Year 3 have created some excellent Ancient Egyptian projects over the half term break. They are fantastic!
They have been fascinated by some of the interesting things the Egyptians did during their time, such as building the pyramids and mummification! We cannot wait to dive deeper into our learning even more this half term!

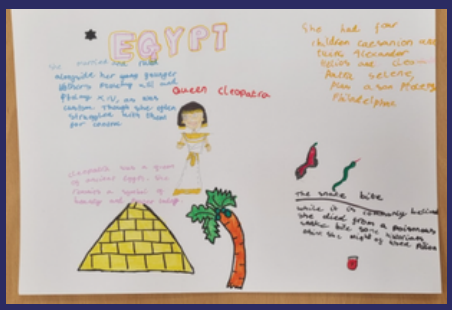




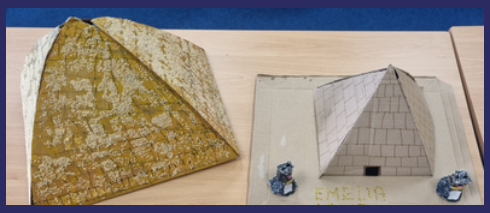




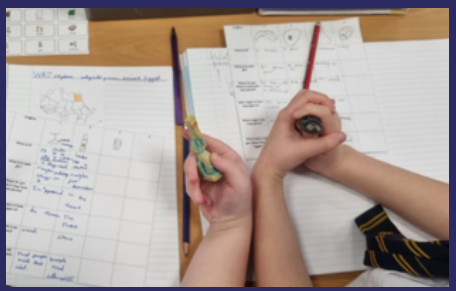


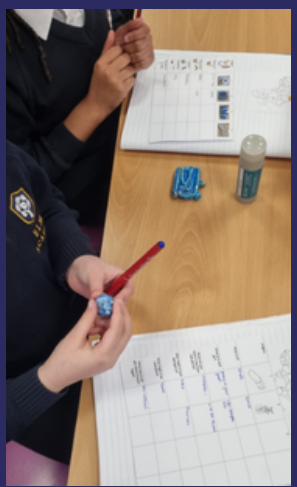


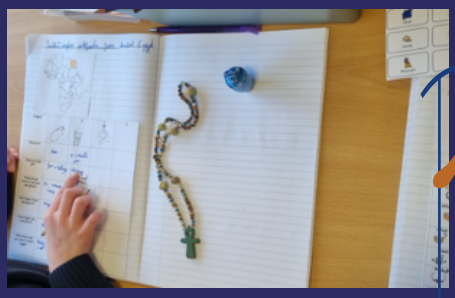














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Year 5

Great Job

This week in Year 5, we've been working hard on converting fractions to decimals – and back again – in maths. We've also begun an exciting new English unit on writing narrative stories. We also had a cyber-bullying workshop, learning how to stay safe and support others online. In science, we've started exploring life cycles and asking great questions about how different living things grow and change!





Over half term, pupils completed a special project, and we're delighted to share some of their fantastic entries!





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SHINE

A group of Year 6 children have being visiting Canford School on a Saturday morning. The last time they went they did business studies, looking at how to survive on a deserted island for 12 hours. Then they did biology. They used microscopes to look at a leaf, cheek cells and water fleas. The children are looking forward to their next sessions on the 28th February, 14th March and 21st March.













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Events at Elm



Thank you to everyone for their very kind and generous donations for Hope For Food on our mufti day!



Well done to our fantastic group of Year 4 dancers who attend Once Upon a Dance at the Bournemouth Primary Dance Festival. Their talent and commitment was EPIC!





On Friday 6th February, we took part in the NSPCC Rocks competition as part of Number Day. We are thrilled to share that we are the South West winners!





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Friends of Elm









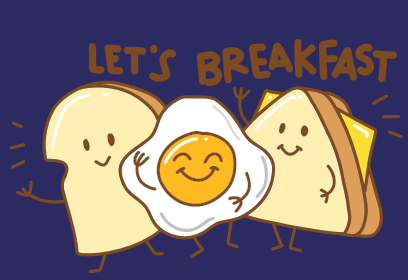
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A reminder that our free breakfast club doors open at 8.20 am and will close no later than 8.25 am.
All children must be accompanied by an adult to the doors.
If your child arrives after this time they will not be allowed in and you will have to wait until 8.40 am for the gates to open.
Please see below for our weekly menu





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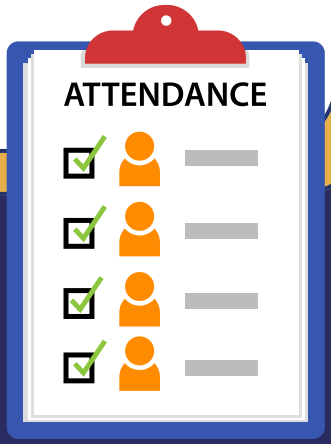
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Attendance



02nd Feb - 26th Feb
Whole school Attendance - 95.25%

Hedgehogs - 97.86%
Squirrels - 92.86%
1TB - 96.18%
2JC - 93.1%
3KW - 96.15%
3LS - 94%
4CJ - 97.37%
4LL - 97.89%
5AH - 94.84%
5JD - 97.86%
6AC - 89%
6BH - 95.79%
6ET - 97.89%



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Please can we remind you that Elm Academy is a NUT FREE School.

We have multiple children at our school with severe nut allergies.

Children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a serve, potentially life threating allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy it is not just eating nuts that can cause a serve reaction, just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties).

We can NOT have NUTs at Elm Academy in any form. So please check that your children have NO NUT products in their lunch boxes or brought into the school as a treat.

The following items should not be brought into Elm Academy:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (students allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Cakes made with nut

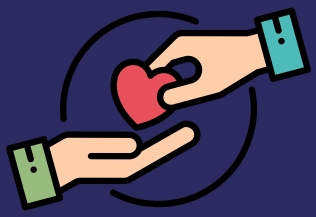
Please ensure you always check the packaging of any food items brought into school. If the packaging says the following words, these items should not be brought into Elm Academy:

- Not suitable for nut allergy sufferers
- This product contains nuts
- This product may contain traces of nuts

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

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Useful Information

MYTIME YOUNG CARERS

Is your child a Young Carer?

A young carer is a 'child under the age of 18 who helps to look after a member of their family or a friend who is ill, disabled or living with a Mental Health condition or who misuses substances'.

If your child is a Young Carer they could benefit from support in school and MYTIME Young Carers can

Give young carers something to look forward to amidst challenging circumstances

Create much-needed breaks for young carers and safe spaces where they can be themselves

Offer social opportunities for young carers to connect with one another

Empower young carers with new skills, confidence and self-worth

Identify training opportunities and pathways to employment for young adult carers

Educate schools, local authorities and communities to increase support and understanding for young carers

Provide support to young carer parents, siblings and other family members

If you feel your child is a Young Carer please contact Mrs Stevenson (Pastoral Support) for more information.

HOPE FOR FOOD

Many people are struggling due to the current cost of living. If you require support with essential food items please contact Mrs Stevenson in the Inclusion Team to request a Food Hamper or complete the Microsoft Form below for a six week referral. These are delivered to school weekly by Hope for Food.

Request for Food Hamper from Hope for Food – Fill in form

Please See below link for the BCP Access to Food Map showing community Food Support in your area

Access to Food Map | Tableau Public

BCP Council

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Useful Information



NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT HUB

Do you know where to go for help and support?

Everyone welcome

Drop-in to our Neighbourhood Support Hub for free advice and support on cost of living, health and wellbeing and more.

MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2025 12PM – 2PM	MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026 12PM – 2PM
MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025 12PM – 2PM	MONDAY 11TH MAY 2026 12PM – 2PM
MONDAY 12TH JANUARY 2026 12PM – 2PM	MONDAY 13TH JULY 2026 12PM – 2PM

HENRY BROWN CENTRE, CUNNINGHAM CRESCENT, BH11 8DU

BCP Council · WEST HOWE Community Enterprises · NORTH BOURNEMOUTH PRIMARY CARE NETWORK

Chat with local services

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Useful Information

Public

Behaviours that Challenge Us Information Sessions

NHS Dorset

Action for Children

"I implemented one of the strategies the next day with great results!"

We are pleased to be able to offer Free one-off sessions for parents living in Dorset to understand more about 'Child Behaviours that Challenge us'

For parents with children between the ages of 5 and 11

The session is delivered by a Child Clinical Psychologist and an Action for Children Parenting Practitioner

Wednesday 4th March
10:00am – 12:00pm
Virtual session via Microsoft Teams

Wednesday 15th April
10:00am – 12:00pm
Virtual session via Microsoft Teams

"I found it really useful to know about why the behaviour occurs, even if you can't always change it, having the understanding makes it easier for me to cope with"

These are one-off sessions so you only need to attend one event

Places are limited and can be booked via our website using the QR code or by visiting: www.actionforchildren.org.uk/dorset

Action for Children, whose registered address is at 3 The Boulevard, Ascot Road, Watford WD18 8AG and registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee in England & Wales under number 4764232. Registered charity numbers 1097940/SC038092.

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Useful Information









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Useful Numbers

National Domestic Abuse Helpline- 0808 16 89 111
Citizens Advice- 0808 27 87 939
SHOUT Text Service (Mental Health Support)- Text 85258
KOOTH (Mental Health Support 11-18 years)- 08000 55 555
NSPCC Helpline- 0808 800 5000
NSPCC Helpline Under 18- 0800 1111

Information regarding Head lice

Head Lice:

- Can't fly, jump or swim
- Are very unlikely to be spread by objects such as hats, combs and pillows
- Don't have a preference for dirty, clean, short or long hair
- Only affect people and can't be caught from animals

Once detached from the hair, head lice will usually die within 12-24 hours.

Preventing head lice

It's very difficult to prevent Head Lice. You may want to consider regular detection combing on a weekly basis. Lotions and sprays don't prevent Head Lice and should only be used if a live louse has been found in your own, or your child's hair.Staying off work or school and washing clothing and bedding on a hot wash is unnecessary, as it's unlikely to help prevent the spread of Head Lice. It is also Ideal if your child has long hair to wear it up to lessen the chance the lice attach.