

ELMHURST SCHOOL

Dunsham Lane
Aylesbury
Bucks
HP20 2DB

Headteacher
Miss Rachel Kirk

Tel/Fax 01296 481380

15 October 2012

Dear Parents,

Dates for your Diary

On Tuesday the 20th of November we will be holding our second Parents Forum in the school hall from 8:50am. Please do come and join us to find out what new things are happening at the school.

Thank you to all the parents who came to the Parents Forum on Tuesday, 2nd October. We were able to update parents on many aspects of school life and a number of developments planned for this year. One of these is the opening of a Parent's Room, which we are calling 'The Harding Room' in recognition of the generous grant awarded from the local Harding Trust. This room is due to open after half term and will be a space which parents can meet for a variety of activities, including adult and family learning, internet access using new computers, social gatherings and other activities. Mrs Maryam Khan Miss Erin Moloughney will be based in this room and will be drawing up a varied programme of interesting and valuable activities for parents. We will be holding a special opening ceremony and we will send you details when final arrangements have been made.

We will be having a staff training day on Friday, 26th October and therefore school will close for half term at the end of the day on Thursday, 25th October.

Late Arrivals

Do please endeavour to bring your child(ren) to school on time. It is very disruptive for the rest of the class when a child arrives late. If you arrive late, you **must** report to the 'late gate' which will be manned by school staff and sign your child in. If the gates are closed you **must** report to the office.

Attendance

It is very important that children attend school **every day**; we still need to raise our school's attendance figure. It has been proven that there is a direct link between children's attendance and how well they do at school. There is a big impact on children's learning if they do not attend every day.

Holiday in Term Time

May I remind everyone that we no longer approve holiday during term time. Please do not take your children out of school unless absolutely necessary, **it has a huge impact on their learning and every day really does count.**

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School Uniform

I would like to take this opportunity to give you a few reminders about school uniform:

- Yellow Elmhurst polo shirts and blue Elmhurst jumpers can be bought from Bucks Schoolwear Centre in Kingsbury. These should be worn with black trousers/skirt and **sensible black school shoes** (not trainers).
- If girls wear a hijab, this should be royal blue and should be one-piece **not** a pashmina/shawl. These can be purchased from the school office for £2.50.
- PE uniform is a white polo or t-shirt with black shorts or jogging bottoms. In addition to normal school footwear, children should have trainers for outdoor games.
- Please ensure all items are **clearly named**. Children take off their jumpers or coats at break times and forget to collect them again.
- It is very important that children are dressed in the correct school uniform in order to have a sense of belonging and a pride in the school.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is now up and running. You can drop your child off from 8:00am at the Main School Office, if you would like them to have breakfast with us. There is a charge of 50p per day for breakfast club or £2.00 for the week. If you would like your child to attend, please collect a form from the school office.

Nursery Times

Morning Nursery times have changed slightly to remain in line with the whole school. Nursery now starts at 8:30am and finishes at 11:30am. Please ensure you pick your child up promptly at 11:30am, to allow Nursery staff a chance to refresh the environment in preparation for the Afternoon Nursery, and have a lunch break.

Homework Clubs

We still have spaces in our homework clubs, so if your child is struggling to get their homework completed at home then please do sign them up for a homework club where an adult will be on hand to support them. Our internal data shows that those children who complete their homework on a regular basis and to a high standard make greater progress than those who do not.

School Car Park

A number of parents are still driving into the school car park. Please park safely in Dunsham Lane and walk your child into school.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R Kirk
Headteacher



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