



As we begin Term 4, it is lovely to see the brighter weather arriving alongside what promises to be a busy and exciting half-term.

There is much to look forward to in the weeks ahead. Our Upper Key Stage 2 residential takes place at the end of March, alongside football and hockey tournaments, World Book Day and many other enriching opportunities for our children. We are grateful to the staff who work so hard to make these experiences possible.

You will be aware that our morning drop-off routines have now changed. If you are still unsure about the arrangements, please refer to the information on the next page. Thank you for your continued cooperation as we embed these new procedures, which are designed to ensure that everyone in our school community feels safe, calm and welcome at the start of each day.

Our school website has recently been refreshed, with further updates to follow. We are delighted that Sarah Prescott, who takes our class and individual photographs, will be in school this month to update our images. Sarah has very kindly offered to do this free of charge and we are extremely grateful for her continued support.

Thanks to your generosity at our recent Scholastic Book Fairs, we have been able to purchase a wide range of brand new books for our library at no cost to the school. The credits generated through your purchases have enabled us to order exciting titles for both our youngest and oldest readers, which will soon be appearing on the shelves. Thank you for supporting reading in this way — it makes a real difference.

We are currently looking for a comfortable armchair for our library — a special 'reading chair' where staff and children can enjoy a relaxing read. If you have an armchair with a fire safety label still attached that you would be willing to donate, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Finally, we are continuing to develop and enhance our lunchtime and playtime provision. We would like to offer more opportunities for creative, collaborative play, including den-building, obstacle courses and large-scale construction. If you are able to donate items such as old tyres, planks of wood, large plastic milk crates, tarpaulin, rubber bricks or similar materials, we would be very grateful. These resources will help us provide rich and imaginative play experiences for all our children.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

ELHAM VALLEY OPEN DOOR PRAYER HUB

For information about our local churches and the services they are offering, please visit their website:

[https://
elhamvalleygroupofchurch-
es.co.uk/](https://elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk/)

Folkestone Junior Chess Club

If your child would like to join a chess club, there is one in Folkestone. Please see their website using the link below:

[https://
folkestonejnrchess.wixsite.com
/juniors](https://folkestonejnrchess.wixsite.com/juniors)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All events can be found on the school website in the Calendar tab under Key Information

Week beginning 9th March—Science Week

11th March—WWF Wear It Wild—come to school dressed as your favourite wild animal.

12th March—Nightingale Quicksticks cricket @ 3 Hills

12th March—KM 'My Mum' supplement published

13th March, 2.45pm: Celebration Assembly—PARENTS INVITED

13th March, 3.15pm: PTA Mother's Day Sweets & Sparkles Sale

23rd– 26th March—Peake Residential, Hailsham, East Sussex

30th March, 9.30am—Rock's Cool Concert

2nd April—Elham Historical Society—Nightingale & Peake—historical walk around Elham

2nd April, 2pm—Easter Service in St Mary's Church, Elham

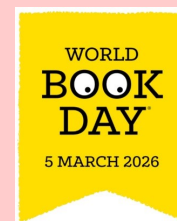
2nd April—End of Term 4

20th April—Term 5 starts

23rd April—PE lessons—Athletics

World Book Day

What a fantastic array of book characters filled Elham Primary today for World Book Day!



Thank you to all the parents for wholeheartedly embracing this special event. It was amazing to see such a wonderful variety of creative costumes and imaginative ideas — the effort really made the day extra special for everyone.

Morning Drop Off

We have made a slight change to how we welcome you and your children to school each morning. Following discussions with the Parent and Carer's Forum, we have taken the decision to open the school gate from 8:30am each morning. This decision has been made to move yourselves and the children away from the road, which can get busy with traffic in the mornings. To combat this, and in an effort to promote everyone's safety, children and adults are welcome to stand on the school playground for the 5 minutes before the school day begins. This will take those who arrive early away from the main road.

Please note **that whilst the gate will be open from 8:30am, school will still begin at 8:35am. Until 8:35am, parents and carers remain responsible for the safety and behaviour of their children.**

We would also like to make clear that children should not be sent on to the playground nor into the school without an adult before 8:35am. The school gate will continue to be shut at 8.50am when lessons will formally begin.

Easter Service

We will hold our Easter Service in St Mary's Church in Elham on the last day of Term 4, Thursday, 2nd April. Please join us in church for this special service which starts at 2pm.



Celebration Assembly

Parents and carers are welcome to come along to our Celebration Assembly on Friday, 13th March. Please come to the pedestrian gate by the staff car park at 2.45pm for a 2.50pm start.

Wear It Wild!

We are looking forward to celebrating Science Week in school next week. The children will be taking part in a range of exciting activities and we are delighted to be welcoming special visitors who will be working with the pupils to enrich their learning.

As part of our Science Week celebrations, we will also be supporting WWF's *Wear It Wild* campaign on Wednesday, 11th March. On this day, children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite wild animal. This can be a costume, or simply coming in dressed in the colours of a tiger, or wearing a T-shirt with an animal on the front. School uniform is not necessary.

If you are able to, we would appreciate a small donation to support this fantastic cause. Donations can be made via our school JustGiving page:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/elham-primary-school?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL

Sporting Fixtures

Congratulations to our Year 5 and 6 Football Team for taking part in this week's Football League at Three Hills Sports Club. The team demonstrated a positive attitude and excellent team spirit throughout the event — we are very proud of them. The team came third in the Developmental Teams. Well done to Henry, Harley, Wilfred, Julian, Dylan, Ella, Eloise, Selby, Flynn and Teddie.

Next week, Nightingale class will be competing in a hockey tournament. We wish them the very best of luck and look forward to hearing how they get on.

Thank you to those parents who provided feedback regarding transport to sporting events. Responses were mixed, with some families preferring to take their child directly to the venue, while others would welcome the option of a school minibus or coach. Where it is financially feasible, we will endeavour to accommodate this preference; however, there may be occasions when this is not possible.

Mini Marathon

Exciting news! Our school has been given 25 spaces in the official London Mini Marathon on Saturday April 25th. We are now awaiting more information which will be released to schools on March 13th. A big thank you to Mrs Smith (Selby, Paighton and Hadley's mum) who suggested that the school get involved and has supported us with the application for places.

More information, including a letter, will be available soon. We hope to use it as an opportunity to fundraise whilst also getting active and being part of the broader national community.



Password for New Website

You should have received an email from Juniper with instructions on how to set up your login details for our new website. If you have not received the message, check your junk/spam folder and ensure that you have added support.jw@junipereducation.org to your safe senders list. Please use the link below to complete this.

<https://www.elhamprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Parents+Evening&pid=1688>

Parents' Meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, 29th April, for all children, and on Thursday, 30th April for children in Key Stage 2. The booking system will open on Saturday, 28th March, at which point you will be able to select your preferred appointment time.

My Mum Supplement

KM Media Group will publish their free annual 'My Mum' supplement next week in celebration of Mother's Day on Sunday, 15th March. Many of our KS1 children have drawn pictures which will feature in this edition, and therefore, you might like to purchase a copy of the Kentish Gazette (Canterbury edition), which will be available from next Thursday, 12th March.

School Money

Please could parents ensure that their children's School Money accounts are in credit by 31st March in preparation for our financial year end close. We currently have outstanding arrears of £75.00 for school dinners and £28.50 for clubs.

We would be grateful if these balances could be cleared by the above date.

**KATE HORTON'S
SPORTS CAMP**

Easter
7th - 10th April

Summer
20th - 24th July
27th - 31st July

Stowting Primary School
9am-3pm (8.30 early drop off available)

£30 per day

Reserve a place : Email Kate Horton
simplydevine9@hotmail.co.uk

The first in the village for 10 years . . .

ELHAM

**Model
Railway
Exhibition**

Open 10am-4pm

14 layouts
+ trade support

**Saturday 11th
April 2026**

**Elham Village Hall,
High Street, Elham,
nr Folkestone CT4 6SX**

See map overleaf for directions

Adults £6, Kids £1 (5-16), Families £12 (2+3), u-5s free

Presented by East Kent Model Railway Society (Whitstable) in conjunction with
Elham Valley Model Railway Club.

Model of Elham Valley Railway image from the Stephen Cupit Collection.

Help shape the district's future economic growth

Have your say in our new Folkestone & Hythe district-wide Economic Strategy

Folkestone & Hythe District Council is developing a new long-term Economic Strategy and Action Plan – and we want to hear from you.

We are especially keen to hear from local businesses about the frustrations you face, the barriers to trading, and your ideas for improving business growth and opportunity across the district.

Come to our public engagement drop-in sessions:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Wednesday 4 th March
10.30 – 2.30pm | Hythe Town Hall, High Street,
Hythe, Kent, CT21 5AJ |
| Thursday 5 th March
9.30am – 1.30pm | Folkestone Town Council,
1-2 Guildhall Street, CT20 1DY |
| Tuesday 10 th March
9am – 1pm | The Maude Community Centre,
Station Road, TN28 8LQ |

Share your views in our short survey
before 3 pm on Monday 16 March

- Scan the QR code to take part



GROSSELFINGER
CELLO STORM
ENTRANCE £10

SUNDAY - 8 | MAR - 3 PM
CANTERBURY - EN
St Mary the
Virgin Elham

Supported by
70 Records
more

Is your child registered for SCHOOL MILK?

Child
UNDER 5

Every child under the age of five is entitled to free school milk. Simply register your child online.



Child
OVER 5

Every child over the age of five is entitled to milk at a subsidised cost of around £20 per term. Register your child and pay online.

Children in receipt of benefits-based free school meals are eligible for free school milk. Speak to the school for further information.

Free milk for under 5s is funded by the Department of Health and milk for over 5s is subsidised by DEFRA.

REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY

Register online
www.coolmilk.com



Need help?
Send us a message
at www.coolmilk.com/contact

Elham PTA presents



Mother's Day "Sweets & Sparkles"

Friday 13th March after
school in Russo Room



Cakes,
drinks,
sweets &
treats

Let's celebrate!

Jewellery shop -
come and find
something
sparkly!



YUMMY DONATIONS WELCOME - PLEASE LIST ALLERGENS IF HOME-MADE AND
LEAVE IN PACKAGING IF SHOP-BOUGHT