**Newsletter Friday 31st January 2020**

Dear Parent/Carers,

**Extreme Weather/School Closure**

Please be assured that every effort is made to keep the Academy open. However, there are exceptional circumstances where the safety of your child/children is the primary concern. At such times a decision is made on whether it is safe or practical to open the school to our pupils. For example, when the journey to school is dangerous due to weather conditions such as heavy snow or when teaching staff, who travel some distance to reach school, are obliged to abandon their journey due to unsafe weather conditions. At such times school closure may be considered the safest option.

If a decision is made to close the Academy a text alert will be sent as soon as possible informing you of the closure. Information will also be posted on the front page of the Elm Academy website:

[www.elm-academy.org.uk](http://www.elm-academy.org.uk)

**Author Visit**

Published author, Chris Connaughton, will be visiting Years 5 and 6 on Wednesday 5th February 2020 to talk about his new book and the writing process. Children will have the opportunity to purchase his new book “The Essence Hunter” for £6.99 on the day. There is, however, no obligation to buy. If children do wish to purchase one they should bring in the correct money in a sealed, named envelope.

**NSPCC Number Day**

We will be supporting the NSPCC Number Day on Friday 7th February 2020. Children should wear an item of clothing with a number on it and are asked to bring in a suggested donation of £2.00. They could wear a sports shirt or cap, even a onesie. They may want to be really creative and dress up as a dice or a calculator! During the day they will enjoy various number related activities.

**Parents Evening**

This will take place on Wednesday 12th February 2020. Further information was sent home in a separate letter.

**School Communication**

To reduce our paper usage and costs of sending text messages, we will be moving to using email communication in the near future. During parents evening you will be asked to provide your email address and we request that you update us, via the school office, if this changes.

**School Discos**

Discos will be on Thursday 13th February 2020, please see our previous letter.

**100% Attendance**

Congratulations to 2JK who achieved 100% attendance during week ending 24th January 2020.

**Pen Licences**

Congratulations to Gabi, Oskar and Leigha who have recently received their pen licences.

**Heights and Weights Check – Reception Children**

These will take place on Thursday 13th February 2020. Separate letters have been sent out.

**Pantomime**

This will be performed to parents on Wednesday 4th March 2020. Further details are available on Parentpay.

**Puppet making**

Year 2 have recently enjoyed making monster puppets as part of their topic work.

**Staff Changes**

Unfortunately we have to say goodbye to Mrs Wilkins who is leaving us at February half term. We welcome Mrs Head who will join us after half term to replace Mrs Wilkins and congratulate Miss Kincaid who will take responsibility as Head of Year 2. We send our best wishes to Miss Jones who had to leave us earlier than expected to go on her maternity leave. Miss West, who has been working with Year 6, will take over from Miss Jones under the guidance of Mrs Sutter, Vice Principal.

**European Union Settlement Scheme**

Now that the government have agreed to leave the European Union, if you or your children are a European National and need any advice or support to get the immigration status needed to continue to live, work or study in the UK, and be eligible for public services and public funds, please contact the Bournemouth and Poole Citizens Advice on 07761 092704 or 03444 111 444 [euss.advice@citizensadvicebcp.org.uk](mailto:euss.advice@citizensadvicebcp.org.uk)

Very best wishes



Mrs Fish

**Principal**

**Important Dates for the Diary:**

**Spring Term**

Author visit (Y5/6) Wednesday 5th February 2020

Parents Evening Wednesday 12th February 2020

Reception Heights and Weights Thursday 13th February 2020

School Discos Thursday 13th February 2020

Pantomime Wednesday 4th March 2020

Half term Monday 17th-Friday 21st February 2020

Pupil’s last day Friday 3rd April 2020