

# ELMLEY CASTLE C.E. FIRST SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL



2023-2024



*Creating 'A Little Piece of Heaven on Earth'*

# *Important Information*

## **Postal Address**

Elmley Castle C.E. First School  
Main Street  
Elmley Castle  
Persnore  
Worcestershire  
WR10 3HS  
Telephone number: 01386 710279

Email address:  
[office@elmleycastle.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@elmleycastle.worcs.sch.uk)

Website address:  
<http://www.elmleycastle.worcs.sch.uk/>

Headteacher:  
Mrs. Nadia Underwood CEPQH

Chair of Governors : Mr Joe O'Sullivan

## **Local Authority Address**

Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
WR5 2NP

# Welcome

Dear parents,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you, on behalf of the staff and governors, to our school.

Elmley Castle C. E. First School is a happy, caring and supportive village school, situated between Pershore and Evesham at the foot of Bredon Hill. We welcome children into our lovely Preschool and then from Reception through to Year 5.

We are blessed with fantastic outside spaces, a family atmosphere and caring staff who know their pupils inside out. Our broad, balanced curriculum and excellent teaching have enabled us to achieve some of the highest academic standards in the whole of the county. The School's data is top in Worcestershire for Early Years (Reception). We are rated as Ofsted 'Good' (2022) and SIAMS 'Excellent' (2022).

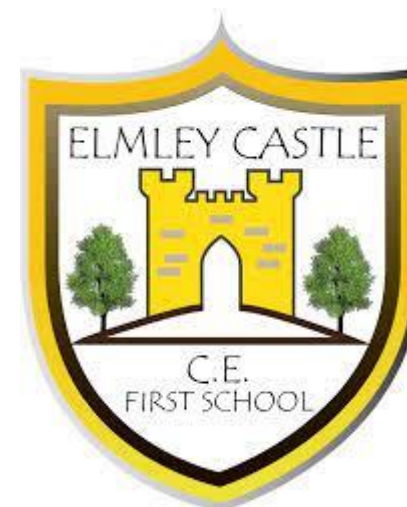
Our primary aim at Elmley Castle CE First School is to give each child the very best possible start in life, to enable them to go on to be confident, successful and responsible adults. Our dedicated and committed staff work very closely together to provide a stimulating safe, happy environment in which each and every child can thrive – spiritually, academically and socially.

We recognise that your child's education goes far beyond the classroom, making use of our local area and offering after school clubs including dance, football, hockey, music, drama, chess and many more.

Our school forms an important part of the local community and we work hard to maintain positive links. We have a thriving, enthusiastic and extraordinarily supportive Parent Teacher Association that organises social and fund-raising activities throughout the year. Our work in school is supported and monitored carefully by a very effective Governing Body. As a Church of England school, we very much value our relationship with our local church.

The success of our school is dependent on the strength of the partnerships we build with everybody in our school community. We look forward to the partnership we will share with you, in the education of your child.

***Mrs Nadia Underwood (Headteacher)***



# *School Vision and Values*

## A Little Piece of Heaven on Earth

‘As a community we grow and flourish together. Through our core values, we seek a lifelong love of learning, pursuing wisdom and excellence so everyone achieves their best. We create opportunities to explore our own sense of spirituality and encourage all to live with thankful, forgiving hearts, respecting the preciousness of our world.’



### School Values

- ▶ Compassion
- ▶ Thankfulness
- ▶ Forgiveness
- ▶ Respect
- ▶ Perseverance
- ▶ Generosity

‘ May God give you heaven’s dew and Earth’s richness.’ Genesis 27:28

## Our Staff

### Senior Leadership Team

**Headteacher :** Mrs. Nadia Underwood (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

**Deputy Headteacher:** Mr Jamie Jarvie (DDSL and SENDco)

#### Acorns Preschool

Early Year Lead: Mrs  
Hemming  
Assistant: Mrs Beamish

#### Oak Class- Reception and Year 1

Teacher: Mr Adam Burke  
Assistants: Mrs Carol Shuard

#### Apple Class- Year 2 and Year 3

Miss Isi Vines  
Assistant: Mrs Katy Priestley  
Miss Allen-Jones  
Miss Dent

PPA Cover: Mrs Amanda Corbett

#### Elm Class- Year 4 and 5

Teacher: Mr Jamie Jarvie  
Assistant: Miss Malindi Hill

#### School Office Team

**Finance:**  
Mrs C Jupp  
**Admin:**  
Mrs T Meredith

#### Teaching Assistants

Mrs C Shuard  
Mrs K Priestley  
Ms M Hill  
Miss Dent  
Mrs S Davis  
Mrs Allen-Jones  
Mrs Beamish

#### Forest School Leader

Mrs S Davis

#### Lunchtime Supervisors

Mrs W Spragg  
Mrs D Hemming  
Mrs K Huggins  
Mrs Thompson  
Mrs Beamish  
Miss Hill

#### Cleaner in Charge

Mrs N Surman

#### Breakfast Club

Mrs C Shuard  
Miss Hill

#### After School Club Mrs

Mrs D Hemming  
Mrs K Huggins  
Mrs Thompson

## Our Governors

Miss K Rooke  
Chair

Mrs S Roberts  
Community Governor

Mrs M Pask  
Foundation Governor

Rev'd Katryn Leclizio  
Foundation Governor

Mr A Burke  
Staff Governor

Mrs E Robinson  
Parent Governor

Mr J Sharpe  
Foundation Governor

Mr G Hay  
Parent Governor

Mrs T Meredith  
Clerk

Mr P Keevil  
Local Authority Governor



## *Starting School*

At Elmley CE First school we offer pre-school provision from age three. Funded places are available from the term your child turns 3. We offer morning, afternoon and all day sessions Monday-Friday. Please contact the school office for further information regarding cost and government free funding information.

Children must, by law, start school at the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday. At Elmley Castle First School, we encourage children to start school at the start of the academic year in which they are five.

All parents (including those living within the catchment area) who wish to be admitted to Elmley Castle First School in September 2023 must complete an online application form. Applications will be accepted from 1st July 2022 until the closing date in January 2023.

### *Joining the school at a later stage*

We welcome admissions of all pupils aged 5 - 10 years during the year, providing we have space in the relevant year group. If you decide to move a child into our school, other than at the beginning of the Reception Year, you will need to complete a CA1 form which can be collected from the school office or found on the Worcestershire school admissions website.



## *Priority of Admissions*

At Elmley Castle First School, when there are more applications than places, children are admitted on the basis of the policy published by the Local Authority listed in the following order of priority:

1. Pupils living within the catchment area of the school
2. Pupils who would still have a brother or sister (sibling connection) at the school at the time of admission
3. Pupils who have a significant reason for admission, such reasons, the validity of which will be determined by the Director of Children's Services, will include medical, social or compassionate grounds. Parents are required to produce a medical certificate or other appropriate information from an independent source. Significant reasons will not be considered unless supporting information is attached to your application form when submitted.
4. Pupils who live nearest to the school by the shortest available walking route. Please note that final decisions about admission lie with the Local Authority, not the school.



## Organisation of the classes

The school has capacity for 90 pupils. The Pupil Admission Number for each year group is 15. Children usually join our preschool from three years old and then officially join the school in the year in which they are five years old (Reception) and leave in the year in which they are ten (Year 5).

For the academic year 2022-2023, we have four classes;

Acorns Class

Pre-School

Assistant: Mrs Hemming and Mrs Beamish

Oak Class

Reception and Year 1

Teacher: Mr Burke

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Shuard,

Apple Class

Years 2 and 3

Teachers: Miss Vines

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Priestley, Miss Dent and  
Mrs Allen-Jones

Elm Class

Years 4 and 5

Teacher: Mr Jarvie

Teaching Assistant: Miss Hill

## Accommodation

This comprises of:

Four classrooms

School hall

Music room/library

Group work room

Design Technology area

Food Technology area/kitchen

Substantial playing field with an adventure

Trail and outdoor classroom

Two hard standing playground areas

Early Years playground

Forest school and school pond





# *The School Day*

The day begins when a member of Staff comes onto the playground at 8.40am. Children should not be left unattended on the playground before this time as they are unsupervised. Children enter via their designated entrances ready to complete activities in class.

A typical days schedule is outlined:

8.40am	Teachers on playground to greet free-flow entry and Registration activities in class
9.00am	Daily Worship
9.20am	Morning sessions begin
10.45am	Break time
11am	Morning sessions continue
12.00pm	Lunchtime
1.00pm	Afternoon session begins
2.00pm – 2.10pm	Break time for Acorns and Oak Class
3.10pm	End of school day

Parents are asked to collect their children promptly at the end of the school day. If you experience difficulties arriving on time please telephone school so that we can supervise children until they are collected.

From time to time parents may make arrangements for other adults to collect their children. Again we ask that you let school know of the arrangement so that we can ensure your child leaves with the correct person. We also offer wrap around school care from 8am and after school until 5.30pm





# Our School Uniform

Our uniform plays a very important part in giving our school its identity. It helps develop loyalty and pride in belonging to Elmley Castle C.E. First School. There is every expectation that parents support the wearing of school uniform and that they will ensure that their child wears correct uniform at all times.

Our uniform is:

## Girls

- Grey skirt or pinafore dress or smart grey trousers
- White blouse or polo shirt
- Green school cardigan or sweat shirt
- Green and white gingham dress (summer)

## Boys

- Grey trousers
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Green school sweat shirt
- Grey shorts (summer)

## Outdoor games kit

- Green T-shirt with the school logo
- Navy blue shorts (summer)
- Green jogging bottoms
- Green tracksuit top/fleece
- Trainers

## PE Kit

- Green T-shirt with the school logo
- Navy blue shorts
- Black pumps/plimsolls

Sensible school shoes should be worn.

For forest school activities children must wear long sleeves and long trousers with wellies and waterproofs.

Green sweatshirts, green cardigans, white polo shirts, jogging bottoms and green PE T-shirt (all bearing the school logo) are available from the School Shop in Evesham. All belongings should be clearly labelled with the child's name. It is very helpful if labels are stitched into clothing as we have found written names wash out.



# Our Curriculum



*Elmley Castle C.E. First School recognises the huge importance of providing high standards of teaching and learning.*

We aim to enable every child to flourish by providing a curriculum which is broad, relevant and meaningful, and one that is increasingly personalised based on individual needs.



We aim to meet the needs of each and every child, ensuring they leave Elmley Castle able to read, write and handle number confidently. We aim to prepare children for our ever-changing world, by helping them to become effective thinkers, successful learners and adaptable, hard workers. It is our intention that every child will have extensive opportunities to develop their skills in the arts, music and sport.

On leaving Elmley Castle School we seek to ensure that every child is confident, polite and able to empathise. Equipped with Christian values, they will have the skills necessary to flourish in the next stage of their education and to become successful and responsible adults.



Our school is statutorily obliged to follow the 2014 National Curriculum. The core subjects are English, Maths, Science, RE and Computing. The Foundation Subjects are History, Geography, Music, Art and Design, Modern Foreign Language, Physical Education and Design and Technology.

In order to give our children the chance to learn new skills and practice more established ones we teach these subjects in an enquiry based approach. This way of teaching enables children with different learning styles to access the subjects in a variety of ways and to be inquisitive and adaptive as knowledge and skills evolve.

The school is committed to enriching and extending the curriculum and children have the opportunity to go on visits to places associated with their areas of study. Visitors are invited into school to further children's knowledge and understanding in specific areas. Children in years 4 and 5 have the opportunity to take part in a Residential based around Outdoor and Adventurous Activities. Our Forest school sessions, which run throughout the school ages in all weathers, are the most popular of the week!

A comprehensive curriculum offer, set up as a rolling programme, records how each curriculum area is covered in a balanced and progressive way throughout the school. Please see our school website for more details





## *Meeting the needs of all the children*



When planning our teaching, we take into account the needs of children with different abilities and learning styles. For each lesson, we plan to cater for the needs of those needing greatest support as well as seeking to stretch the more able pupils. Teaching may be planned for individuals, small groups or the whole class.

During English and maths lessons, we assess the extent to which children are meeting the objectives being covered. Where necessary some children may receive additional small group or individual support from the teacher or teaching assistants. Children who lack confidence in English or Maths, or those who need a little further structured input may take part in specific programmes.



The mental health and wellbeing of our children is also of great importance to us. Children who need extra support in these areas are supported through the Thrive approach, mindfulness techniques taught across the school and social skills interventions.

The other 'Foundation' subjects in our curriculum are now more integrated with one another. This gives us greater flexibility in how we teach our lessons. It also gives us the opportunity to encourage the children to work together, share knowledge and skills and learn from one another. We try to incorporate a first-hand or hands-on experience into each topic to ensure the children have a more complete understanding of the world around them.





## *Provision for children with Special Educational Needs*

Some children have educational needs that require additional support. Such children are identified as having Special Educational Needs (SEND).

Identification of children with SEND is a dialogue involving the parents, the class teacher, the SEND co-ordinator, Mr Jarvie and the Headteacher Mrs Underwood. Decisions are based on: particular needs that the child may have, rate of progress, outcomes of specific assessment tests, the professional opinion of members of staff, and the views of the child and their parents.

Children identified as having Special Educational Needs will have an Individual Provision Map Plan (IPM) established for them. An IPM consists of a structured learning programme, administered over an agreed time period. The programme consists of a series of concise, clearly defined learning objectives. The child is provided with learning activities that will help them to achieve the targets. These activities will take place in the classroom with either the class teacher or teaching assistant. The child may complete the tasks on a one-to-one basis or as part of a small group. At the end of the agreed time period, the child's progress against the IPM targets is reviewed by the class teacher together with the SEN coordinator, the child and their parents. Where appropriate a new IPM is written after this review.

Where necessary, the help of outside agents or specialists is used e.g. speech / language specialists, educational psychologists etc. Parents are fully informed and their permission requested before involvement of such professionals.

From time to time the needs of a child may be such that an Educational Healthcare Plan (EHCP) is made by the Local Authority. Support detailed in the plan is provided by the school. This may include the provision of closer adult support. The Local Authority SEN Support Service is used to support the school in assessment and provide advice on helping individual children.

## *Provision for more able pupils*

We identify children who are particularly able in specific subjects. As with all pupils, we seek to maximise the potential of such pupils. We do this in the following ways:

- We may plan challenges for individuals or groups of children that extend and deepen their understanding;
- Children showcase their skills and talents and use them to extend the learning of others in their class.
- Independent study is encouraged, including the use of library and computing resources;
- The development of 'problem solving' and 'higher order' thinking skills is encouraged;
- Children may participate in cluster events with like-minded children from other schools in the cluster;
- Identify opportunities for children to develop their area of ability outside the school environment.



# Religious Education and Collective Worship

Children throughout the school are taught Religious Education, based on the Worcestershire Syllabus for R.E. During their time at the school, the children cover aspects of Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Sikhism and Hinduism.

Children attend a daily act of Collective Worship which is broadly Christian in nature and extol our school values. These are currently organised as follows:

**Monday** – Collective Worship lead by Mrs Underwood

**Tuesday** – Class Worship lead by class teachers- cultural capital focus

**Wednesday** Collective Worship lead by a member of the church community/ Singing Worship

**Thursday** - Collective Worship lead by Pupil Worship leaders

**Friday** - Celebration Worship led by Mrs Underwood

Parents are invited to join us for Celebration Worship during which children have the opportunity to share the work they have been doing in class during the week. Selected children also receive certificates for their contribution to our school and value awards are celebrated.

As a Church of England school, we value our Christian distinctiveness. All classrooms have a spiritual area, which highlights the core values that our school embodies. Prayers are said daily and our children learn a variety of Christian hymns and songs. We also have worship focus days, which concentrate on important messages of the Bible and the example that Jesus gave us.

*Parents are reminded that they have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Religious Education and Collective Worship provided. Under such circumstances, the school ensures that children are fully supervised and engaged in purposeful activities.*



## *Positive Behaviour*

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school behaviour policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

We praise and reward children for good behaviour in a variety of ways:

- Positive behaviour is actively praised in front of other children;
- Teachers give children team points;
- Each week we nominate children from each class who have consistently shown positive and polite behaviour. Each of these children receives a certificate in the school assembly;
- All classes have an opportunity in our Friday Celebration Worship to show examples of their best work.

The school employs a number of sanctions to enforce the school rules, and to ensure a safe and positive learning environment. We employ each sanction appropriately to each individual situation.

At the beginning of each school year the class teacher discusses the school rules with each class. In addition to the school rules, each class has its own classroom code, which is agreed by the children and displayed on the wall of the classroom. These class rules are produced as a 'Home / School agreement' for the children to talk through with their parents and agree to abide by. In this way, every child in the school knows the standard of behaviour that we expect in our school. If there are any incidents of anti-social behaviour, the teacher discusses these with the whole class during 'circle time'.

We expect children to listen carefully to instructions in lessons and we expect them to try their best in all activities. If teachers feel that they have not given their best, children may be asked to redo a task.

The safety of the children is paramount in all situations. If a child's behaviour endangers the safety of others the class teacher will intervene to ensure the safety of the rest of the children. If a child threatens, hurts or bullies another pupil, the class teacher records the incident and the Head teacher is informed. If a child repeatedly acts in a way that disrupts or upsets others, the school contacts the child's parents and seeks an appointment in order to discuss the situation, with a view to improving the behaviour of the child.

The school does not tolerate bullying of any kind. Such incidents are fortunately very rare in our school. However, any knowledge of an act of bullying or intimidation is acted upon immediately to stop any further occurrences of such behaviour. We do all we can to ensure that school is a happy and welcoming place for all children. We have a policy of zero tolerance towards unprovoked physical assault by one child on another child. Such incidents will be treated very seriously.



## **Safeguarding**

The school has a defined Safeguarding Policy which has been agreed by the Governing Body. The school is legally bound to report any concerns regarding a child's welfare to the appropriate agencies.

Mrs Underwood is the school's designated Safeguarding Officer with Mr Jarvie taking on this role if she is unavailable. All staff working in school, whether permanent, temporary or on a voluntary basis are subject to Disclosure and Barring Service checks.

## **Forest School**

All children take part in Forest School. The philosophy of Forest School is to inspire and encourage individuals through positive outdoor experiences.

By participating in engaging, motivating and achievable tasks and activities in a woodland environment each child has an opportunity to be intrinsically motivated and to develop sound emotional and social skills.

All our children have the opportunity to learn about the natural environment, how to handle risks and how to use their own initiative to solve problems in cooperation with others.

## **Homework**

We understand that if children have worked hard all day at school they should have a period of time to relax, play and spend time with family and friends. We encourage them to do all these things as well as pursue other hobbies and interests.

Our approach to homework seeks to develop positive habits that will consolidate learning and encourage children to improve their study skills. It contributes to our aim to help children become independent learners.

On starting school we hope that parents will spend time reading with their children, playing with sounds and using number in different contexts. As children progress through school, homework becomes increasingly structured, with, Maths practise and topic learning logs.

We encourage parents to spend time with their children whilst engaged in these tasks, enjoying learning together. Parental support is greatly valued and there is much evidence to show it has very positive benefits for children.

## **Swimming**

Children in Years 2,3, 4 and 5 have swimming lessons at Pershore during the Spring and Summer terms. A small charge is made to cover the cost of transport for these lessons. Please ensure that when your child is swimming:

- Long hair is tied back and no jewellery is worn
- Swimwear is appropriate, avoiding beachwear, e.g. Bermuda shorts
- Goggles may only be worn with the signed consent of the parents

If your child is unable to join in the lesson please send a note to the class teacher outlining the reason.

### Administration of medicine in school

If it is absolutely necessary for a child to receive **GP prescribed medication** during the school day, the school is prepared to administer it only if the following instructions are FULLY complied with:

- CLEAR directions for DOSAGE and TIMES to be taken are printed clearly the box and/or bottle with the child's name on and a pharmacy signature.
- The medication should be handed in to Mrs Jupp or Mrs Meredith in the office at the start of each day and the MEDICINE BOOK signed.
- The medication should be collected at the end of each day.

Medicines for administration are stored centrally. Teaching staff will be informed of the need to remind children to go for their medicine.

### Getting to and from school

We encourage parents to avoid using cars when bringing and collecting children from school whenever possible. The area outside school becomes very congested each morning and afternoon and anything that eases this situation is beneficial to the safety of the children.

The school is keen to be a good neighbour to local residents. Therefore parents are urged to be considerate in their parking and driving in the local area.

Children may cycle to school and store their bicycles in the racks provided. The roads around our school are often busy with fast moving traffic and parents are encouraged to supervise their children as they cycle to and from school.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

We broaden the experience of the children by providing a range of extra-curricular activities. The activities are led and managed by teachers, teaching assistants or specialists. Activities provided on a regular basis include:

- Sports Clubs including hockey, football, jump rope and hockey
- Expressive arts such as dance, music and craft.
- Educational extension groups- Magic maths.
- Music tuition- brass and string, piano.

### Hair

Hair should always be neat and tidy. Artificial colouring and 'conspicuous' hairstyles are discouraged. Long hair should always be tied back for safety reasons. In order to avoid head lice we ask all parents to be vigilant. Please check your child's hair regularly.

### School Parliament

This group of democratically elected children from all classes across the school meet regularly to be the pupil voice throughout the school. They help to organise worship, raise funds for charity, are play and learning leaders and eco warriors. They are a huge asset to our school- they have the best ideas-you may be lucky enough to meet them -they love to show people around!

## *Food and Drink in School*

Children can either have a hot school meal or bring their own food for mid-day meals. Children eat in the hall in calm, orderly, supervised sittings. We value this time as a social occasion. When the weather permits children eat lunch outside on the picnic benches on our field. Every Friday, children who have been awarded a lunchtime award for polite manners are invited to sit on the special restaurant table with Mrs Underwood.

We are proud to encourage a healthy diet. We urge parents to provide their children with balanced, nutritional foods that they know their children will eat. Children are encouraged to drink water both at lunchtimes and throughout the day. All containers and bottles should be unbreakable and clearly labelled with your child's name.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. Some children in other years may be entitled to free meals supplied by the Local Authority. Children of parents in receipt of benefits may qualify for free school meals.

We are very fortunate to have home-cooked fresh meals provided daily by a local business, The Deli@ Pershore. Meals are ordered via their website and payment made directly to them. For more details please ask at the office.

### **Fruit**

All children in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One (up to the end of Year 2) are provided with fruit each day, free of charge.

### **Milk**

All children in school up to the age of five are entitled to milk free of charge. Again, other children may have milk too, for a small charge. At the start of each term we ask parents if they would like their child to have milk each day.





## *Links with the Middle school and other First schools*

### **The 'Cluster' Schools**

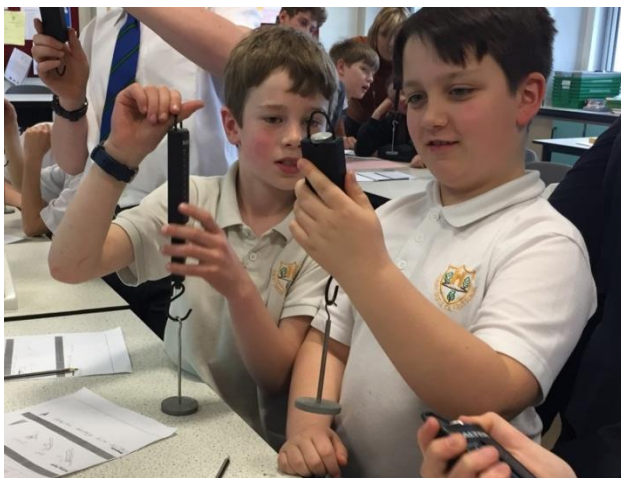
(The Middle School and the feeder First Schools)

There are very strong links between the Head teachers and Senior Managers of the local First Schools and the Middle School. Regular meetings are held where a wide range of pertinent issues are discussed including how best to pass on relevant information and how to moderate work between schools. Good practice is shared by all who attend. All of the staff in the 'cluster' meet from time to time for meetings and 'Teacher Education' days. These help to strengthen links and to promote shared practice.

Having an Executive head who is also a Headteacher at Sedgeberrow Cof E first school means that we can share good practise and skills on a regular basis. This also creates more sporting opportunities between the two schools.

### **Middle School**

The vast majority of pupils leaving at the end of Year 5 go on to Bredon Hill Middle School. The liaison between the two schools is very strong. Part of the transition package includes activities such as an outdoor games event and an end of year Prom that involve all the Year 5's in our cluster First Schools. These group activities give the children the chance to make new friends before arriving at Middle School. An induction programme in the Summer Term ensures a smooth transition between the schools. This includes formal and informal visits by our pupils to the Middle School and a visit to our school by a member of staff from the Middle School. The needs of individual pupils are discussed in order to provide appropriate academic and social placement.



## *Links with the Local Community*



As the local church school, Elmley Castle First School enjoys excellent links with the communities of Elmley Castle and the surrounding villages. Members of the Parish Community visit the school once a week to lead acts of Collective Worship. We also hold their end of term services and Christmas production in the Church, to which parents and the community are invited. At Christmas time, the older children go to sing to the residents of a local nursing home. A highlight of the school year takes place every May on Oak Apple Day, when a May Queen is crowned and the children dance around the Maypole. This tradition goes back a long way!

A number of members of the Governing Body strengthen the links with the communities of the local villages. The children are regularly invited to take part in village events such as the parish Harvest Festival and local villagers often attend special services, fetes and other school events.

Our PTA is a thriving social group which raises an enormous amount of money for our children through many exciting and fun events. Christmas wreath making, Easter bingo, sports day cream teas and the amazing summer fete are just a few examples. This last academic year they raised enough money for us to buy a KS2 scheme of reading books, helped to fund our EYFS outside area, a class set of laptops and are funding our new school website and interactive whiteboards throughout the school.





## *A Partnership with Parents*

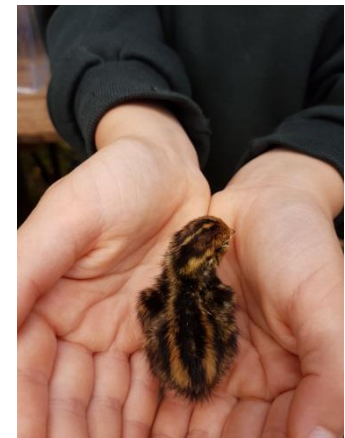
*The school prides itself on the open and positive relationship that it has with parents. We believe that parents have a vital role to play in the education of their children. We are always looking for fresh ways of improving the partnership between school and parents.*

There are two formal occasions in the year when parents are given the opportunity to discuss their child's progress. These take place early in the Autumn term and in the second half of the Spring term. Parents do not need to wait until these occasions but can arrange to meet their child's teacher or the Head teacher at any point during the year. In July we send out formal written reports detailing children's progress throughout the year. Parents have the chance to discuss this report with the class teacher if they wish.

Most day to day information needed by parents is provided in the fortnightly School Newsletter, on the school website or via our Facebook page. The views of parents on all aspects of school life are sought on an annual basis. The results of such surveys help to inform the writing of subsequent School Development Plans.

The parents of our children are excellent at helping the school. They come in to share reading times with children, support Forest School sessions, help with school trips, give weekly practical help and even to assist with the tidying of the grounds. Parents are also encouraged to support their children in their homework.

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is very active, and supportive. Members of the PTA are always willing to help when the need arises. The PTA raises significant amounts of money each year, for which we are very grateful.





Elmley Castle CE First School- together we are creating  
'A little Piece of Heaven on Earth'

