



ELMLEY NEWS

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

Welcome Back

Welcome back after the Easter break. We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable holiday.

What a busy and exciting start to the new term we have had!

Elmley Dining Experience

The children are thoroughly enjoying the new Elmley dining experience. Each day, the tables are beautifully set with tablecloths, flowers, and cutlery, helping to create a calm, welcoming and respectful environment at mealtimes.

We are continuing to support the children in developing important life skills, including learning how to use both a knife and fork confidently and independently when eating.

National Year of Reading – Go All In

To support the National Year of Reading campaign, Go All In, we have created a new library and cosy seating area where children can choose books that interest them and read for pleasure.

Research shows that developing a love of reading can boost academic performance, enhance empathy, and improve mental wellbeing. We are delighted to provide this inviting space to help nurture a lifelong enjoyment of books and stories.

Ofsted Inspection

Finally, as many of you know, we were inspected by Ofsted on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Thank you to all parents and carers who completed the parent surveys and for your kind words and support over the last few days. Your encouragement means a great deal to us.

The children were absolutely wonderful throughout the inspection and truly let their lights shine brightly. We were so proud of how they represented our school community.

A huge thank you also goes to our incredible staff team, who work tirelessly each day to ensure our children receive the care, support and education they deserve. Thank you as well to our governors, whose guidance and commitment continue to help shape the future of the school.

It is a very exciting time for our school, and a real privilege to be leading it into the next stage of its journey. Once the report is published, we will share this with you.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kindest regards,

Miss Harbron

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17TH APRIL 2026

What's new?



A huge congratulations to Miss Eustace who is now known as Mrs Green.



Our new improved diner hall, to enrich our eating experience.



Our new reading nook areas. Including a complete overhaul of our reading books for learning and pleasure.



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Wrap Around Care at ECFS

Breakfast Club

7:45am-8:15am £4.50

with breakfast

8:15am-8:40am £3

no breakfast

8:30am Early Drop off £2



After School Club

3:10-4:10pm £4.90

3:10pm-5:30pm £9.80

With a light meal

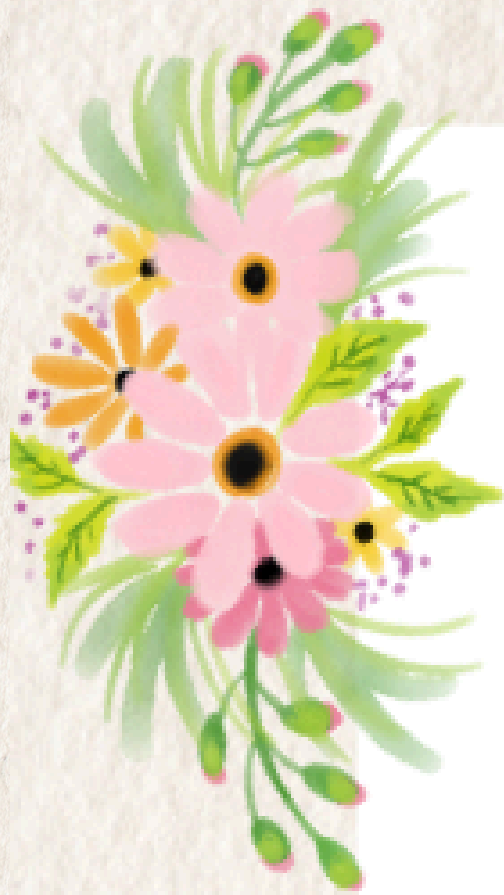
If a child attends ASC after a club the first asc rate of 1 hour will be charged on top of the club charges.



2025- 2026



Please can we politely ask all sessions are booked via parent pay or if paid by tax free/childcare vouchers through the office. We need to know which days and dates your child will be attending the clubs.



Please Join us for

Oak Apple Day

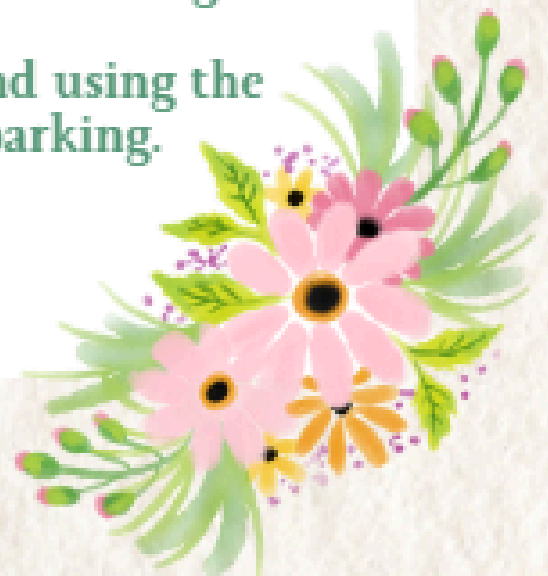
Followed by a
family picnic on the
school field

Thursday 21st May 2026

Join us outside the Queens Pub in
Elmley Castle at 11am.

Parking- Please be made aware the
road will be closed from the school
to the pub/village square during the
event.

We would recommend using the
village hall for parking.



History of Oak Apple Day



On 29th May 1660, his birthday, King Charles II rode into London and restored the monarchy to England. An Act of Parliament was then passed making 29th May a national day of celebration and thanksgiving for the Restoration. It was to be marked with special church services, ringing of bells and bonfires. The name Royal Oak Day came from the fact that King Charles' emblem was the oak leaf, which commemorated his having hidden in an oak tree after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester in September 1651. The new holiday was immediately welcomed by the people because the Restoration was popular and the timing fell into the period of general May Day celebrations, which tended to last for most of May. Royal Oak Day soon took on some of the main features of May Day, such as erecting maypoles and decorating houses and churches with boughs from trees, especially oak trees.

We have a very special reason for keeping alive the tradition of celebrating Oak Apple Day in Elmley Castle. When King Charles was fleeing from the City of Worcester after the battle in 1651, a man called Moore from Elmley Castle was in Worcester with a cartload of hay. Mr Moore was a Royalist and when he saw the king escaping from the Parliamentarians, he pulled his cart across the road immediately after the king had passed to block the way, delaying the pursuers and allowing the king to escape. After his Restoration, King Charles showed his gratitude to Mr Moore by giving him a farm at Kersoe (edge of Elmley Castle village)



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

ROBLOX

PEGI RATING
7+

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scam links or general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

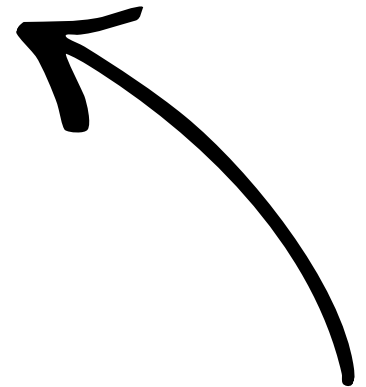


NOS
National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



ATTENDANCE

Attendance Ladder



96.47% WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

GOVERNORS

Dear Elmley Families,

It is with great pleasure that we announce that **Miss Natalie Harbron** has been appointed as the new **Headteacher** at Elmley Castle C of E First School from **1st September 2026**.

Following a rigorous interview process, involving pupils, staff and governors as well as representatives from the Local Authority and Diocese, we are convinced that she is the right candidate to **let her light shine** as she embraces our vision and values, leads our school and provides much needed stability.

Miss Harbron will continue in her current role as Head of School, with Mr Phil Croke remaining as Executive Headteacher until the end of this academic year to ensure a smooth transition.

I'm sure you will join us in congratulating Miss Harbron and in supporting her as she leads our school into an exciting new chapter. Together, we light the way for a brighter future.

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PTA

The Amazon Wishlist logo, featuring the word "amazon" in black and "wishlist" in a gold, slightly blurred font, with a gold arrow pointing from the 'a' to the 'l'.

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WAYS TO ENRICH THE CHILDREN'S LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND KEEP OUR SETTING WELL RESOURCED. TO HELP WITH THIS, WE HAVE CREATED AN AMAZON WISHLIST WITH A SELECTION OF ITEMS THAT SUPPORT PLAY, LEARNING, AND EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES.

IF YOU ARE IN A POSITION TO DO SO AND WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT US, DONATIONS FROM THE WISH LIST WOULD BE VERY GRATEFULLY RECEIVED.

PLEASE KNOW THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO OBLIGATION – YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT ALREADY MEANS SO MUCH TO US. ANY DONATED ITEMS WILL BE USED DIRECTLY FOR THE CHILDREN'S BENEFIT, AND WE WILL BE SURE TO SHARE OUR THANKS ONCE ITEMS ARRIVE.

MANY THANKS!



https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/s/1NHLOULFH061N?ref_=wl_share

17TH APRIL 2026



BEST ——— MUSIC ——— PRESENTS

LIVE MUSIC

Elmley Castle
The Queen Elizabeth Inn

Celebrating flowers in
the village & thank you
party

PERFORMANCE BY



SATURDAY, April 25TH 6 pm

Elmley Garden Community



Adobe Express