



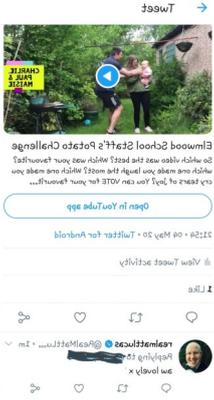
ELMWOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER MAY 2020 – NO. 155

www.elmwood.walsall.sch.uk

RAISING A SMILE!

Thanks to Mr Webb, drama teacher, staff have been recording themselves not only singing but also acting!

If you have not yet seen the School's version of 'Lean on Me' which is on the front page news section of the School website, it is worth checking it out—there are some great performances (not forgetting Adam Mitchell's solo slot).



The latest achievement is the staff potato challenge as showcased by Matt Lucas and his baked potato song. Again, Mr Webb has managed to put together a brilliant video showing staff receiving and throwing potatoes in a variety of settings. This can be viewed on either the new virtual challenges website or the main website and pupils are invited to vote for their favourite staff video. As you can see from the picture, Matt Lucas tweeted how lovely he thought it was.

An Elmwood staff choir is now busy rehearsing and we look forward to eventually hearing and seeing a live performance of the group.



HEADTEACHER APPOINTMENT



We are pleased to confirm that following a successful interview on the 20th May 2020, Mr Lee Cross, was appointed as Headteacher of Elmwood School from 1.9.20.

A big thank you to pupils, parents and staff for their input prior to interview and also to the governors, especially Tracy Brandwood, Chair of Governors, Sallyann Tuckwell-Allen, Vice Chair and Rita Martin who formed the interview panel. They were supported by Pat Hunt, School Improvement Partner, and again a big thank you to Pat.

As you are aware, Mr Cross, has held the post of Acting Headteacher on a number of occasions and during these times has risen to the challenge ensuring that Elmwood is the best it can be.

We wish Mr Cross every success in leading the School forward and look forward to sharing the future successes this will bring.

WELL DONE MARK



We are really enjoying finding out what pupils have been achieving whilst not in School and we were especially proud of what Mark in Year 9 has been up to.

Not only has Mark been helping out with painting garden furniture, he also been busy in the kitchen. The scones that he is proudly showing look absolutely delicious and no doubt didn't last too long - especially with jam and cream to enjoy too.



Well done Mark and keep up the great work and please keep sending any photos you would like to share of your child into School, we love to see them.

CAMERON'S RAINBOW

Shelli George, teaching assistant, at the School has many talents including balloon modelling. In



addition to the rainbow she created for her own window at home, she also made one for Cameron in Year 8. As you can see from the photo, it looks amazing and would certainly brighten up anyone's day when seeing it. A big thank you to Shelli for her kind actions.



ELMWOOD RADIO

Our new budding DJ, Mr Chris Bowen, is continuing to deliver radio shows weekly from his garden shed.

Again, if you have not listened to one of these broadcasts, please tune in via the Elmwood School Challenges website. In addition to hearing some great tunes, there are shout outs to pupils as well as tweets and requests.

HELP AND ADVICE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Walsall Council SENDIASS are able to provide **free**, impartial, confidential advice and support about education, health and social care to children, young people and their parents on **matters relating to special educational needs and disability**.

Ordinarily they are based at the Education Development Centre in Pelsall but are currently available by email and telephone from home. Please see contact details below should any parents or carers need any help or advice.

Aileen Overton. Aileen.Overton@walsall.gov.uk. Mobile: 07827 311786

John Bird. john.bird@walsall.gov.uk Mobile 07384821795

THANK A TEACHER/TEACHING ASSISTANT DAY

National Thank a Teacher Day took place on Wednesday 20th May when as a nation thanks can be shown to teachers and teaching assistants who make a huge difference to young people's lives, not just now during these unprecedented times. but every day!

Pupils were invited to download and colour in poster and write a thank you message to a teacher or teaching assistant which they were then able to post in their windows at home or submit entries to Mr Hawkes via our virtual daily challenges website.

A big thank you to everyone who took part and made the 20th May an extra special one for the hard working staff at Elmwood School. Our next newsletter will feature some of the messages that were received, which were amazing.

MAKE YOUR OWN SENSORY KIT

The Variety Club have recently launched a new guide to making your own sensory resources at home. With the aim of helping parents and carers to support their child's sensory inputs more effectively, all of the ideas can be made from items lying around the house or, if not, they can be picked up easily and cheaply.

The guide will be of particular benefit for children and young people with autism spectrum disorder, sensory processing disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder or other conditions which affect a child's sensory profile. Packed with over 30 ideas for how to provide stimulation across all the senses, how to calm and relax and how to help with focus and concentration, the guide is available to download free from the Variety website. Or on the parents/carers page of the school website.

FSM E-GIFT CARDS

Elmwood has ensured that parents and carers of pupils who qualify for a free school meal have continued to receive support during the closure period. Due to difficulties around the vouchers being available through the DfE, the school have purchased e-gift cards and arranged for these to be posted directly to parents/carers covering a two weeks period. This gesture has also continued during the holiday period in an effort to support our pupils and their families.

As you can appreciate this has placed an additional financial pressure on the School but it is hoped that some of this cost will be absorbed through future fundraising.

A big thank you to Mr Cross, Headteacher, and Ms Maritza, School Business Manager, for making the above happen.