

For regular news from the school, visit the News section on our website or like us on Facebook by following the link on our website homepage or this link: <https://www.facebook.com/ElmfieldRudolfSteinerSchool>



Please email any entries to [loose-ends@elmfield.com](mailto:loose-ends@elmfield.com). The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the school or its staff. The school cannot be held responsible for the quality of products or services offered in this newsletter. We reserve the right to edit content. The editor's decision is final.

## Upcoming Events

Fri 16 March	7.00 pm	Gallimaufrey Eurythmy Room
Sat 17 March	7.30 pm	Concert at St James' Church involving some pupils
Tues 20 March	7.30 pm	Stream of Sound Eurythmy Room
Wed 21 March	12.30 & 3.15	Class 3 Easter handmade crafts & cookies stall
	8.00 pm	Adults' Eurythmy Group Eurythmy Room
	8.00 pm	Community Choir - Hall
Sun 25 March	7.30 pm	Easter Festival Eurythmy room - organised by the Anthroposophical Society
Mon 26 March	5.00 pm	<b>Play by Class 2 - Eurythmy Room</b>
Tues 27 March	7.00 pm	<b>Play by Class 5 - Hall</b>
	7.30 pm	Stream of Sound - Eurythmy Room
Wed 28 March		<b>Early Years Department end of term</b>
	1.50 for 2.00	Easter School Festival – Hall
	12.30 & 3.15	Cake/refreshment stall by Class 8
Thurs 29 March	12.00 am	<b>School end of term</b>
	4.00 pm	School Shop closes for Easter
Wed 18 April	9.00 am	School Shop re-opens
Thurs 19 April		<b>Summer term begins</b>
Mon 23 April		Class 9 leave for Schloss Hamborn
Wed 25 April	1.00 pm	<i>Deadline for copy for next Loose Ends</i>
Fri 27 April	Afternoon	<i>Next issue of Loose Ends</i>
Sat 28 April		Class 7 leave for Tall Ships trip

## Elmfield News and Information

### A brief roundup of some recent goings on...

- We had a wonderful Eurythmy Festival featuring pupils from Classes 1 to 8. Everyone there enjoyed the performances and the catchphrase "Big fat cheese" has now passed into school legend! Congratulations to all involved.
- Class 1 had a trip to Stourton Farm to visit the lambs in the barn, feed the ewes and older lambs out in the fields, and walk through the woods over to the badger setts, spotting badger prints, monkjacks, birds' nests and calls on the way.
- Classes 8-11 took part in an informative and useful sexual health and LGBT+ awareness session with the Brook. The Brook provides a sexual health and education service for those under 25. The pupils

were divided into two groups, those under sixteen and those over sixteen.

- Class 1 have had a very productive time working with pupils from Classes 9, 10 and 11 to make bird-boxes These are nearly finished now and will soon be going up around the school grounds.

**A very warm welcome to the following new pupils and their families:**

Emily in Class 7; Ella in Class 5; and Annie joining Class 4 on Monday.

**SIS inspection:** As you may be aware the school has recently been inspected by SIS (School Inspection Service). We have now received the draft report and are currently checking it. We will be sharing the final report with you when it is published.

**Estates round up:**

- Work has now started on the Tobias toilets and is progressing well. However, it will not be finished until the roof repairs have been completed, which we are hoping will happen over the Easter holidays.
- As you may have noticed, the new fence running along the school perimeter adjoining Gainsborough Hill has been completed. The team did a fantastic job. This was part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding in the school and as a result had to take priority over certain other work.
- The new entry gates system is in place. If you are not sure what the new procedure is, you can find it on the school website via <http://elmfield.com/the-school/key-info/policies/>

**Concert at St James' Church Wollaston - Saturday 17th March at 7.30 pm**

Some of our younger pupils, together with Stream of Sound, will be performing in the Youth Showcase Concert at St James Church, along with students from the Elgar School of Music and Kingswinford Choral Society. It would be lovely if you would come and support us. Tickets are £10 for adults, but free for under 18s/students (available on the door).

**Saving HMS Pinafore** –This production is now well underway with pupils of classes 8 & 9, and we're all getting quite excited about it! The public performances will be on 23rd, 24th & 25th May (just before the half term holiday), and tickets will be available from the first day of next term – we will send out order forms. In the meantime, there are a few things we need to borrow to decorate our 'ship' if you have them to spare - any nautical artefacts, a barometer, a barrel, heavy rope etc. Also, if anyone is keen on sewing, I would appreciate some help with making costumes, please get in touch!

**Term dates for next year** are now available from the office or on the website.

**The art department** would be grateful for any donations of: Emulsion paint (white or colours); Newspapers - broadsheets e.g. Telegraph or Times; Press (for printing); Type writer; Beads / ribbon / fabric remnants; Tissue paper; Unwanted working camera (digital or film) for pupil use in class; Wall paper; Maps. Kind regards, Sue Dutton

**Elmfield Gift Shop:** We close our doors for the Easter break at 4.00pm on Thursday 29 March and re-open, the day before the start of term, on Wednesday 18 April (9.00am - 4.00pm.) So now is the time to start stocking up with all of your favourite toiletries etc. Faith in Nature offer still on - whilst stocks last - shampoos, conditioners & shower gels all at £4.20. We've added to our range of boxed porcelain tea light holders - all designs only £3.96. Finally, if you want to get creative - local crafter Zoe has put together bags of mixed craft materials (£2.50/£2.00.) The Shop Team

**Parents' Library:** Open throughout the term on Wednesdays (8.45am - 9.45am). Now located in Elmfield Gift Shop. Any queries - please email: [jackie.inman@elmfield.com](mailto:jackie.inman@elmfield.com). Recent additions to our shelves: 'Breathing the Spirit: Meditations for times of the day & seasons of the year' by Rudolf Steiner; 'Spring Nature Activities for Children' by Irmgard Kutsch - a book packed full of ideas that will help your child engage with the season e.g. sprouting seeds & using plant-based dyes; 'Wisdom is a Woman' by Mieke Mosmuller - an Anthroposophical novel. The Library Team

**Spring Sale of preloved kindergarten EYD items** - Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd of May. 12.15 and 3.00pm at School.

## JOB VACANCIES

**Admin Assistant, part-time – Vacancy.** Term time (Mondays) only, 8.30am – 5.00pm. Starting ASAP  
We are looking for a talented individual to join our admin team for one day a week. You will be accountable for providing some HR responsibilities, general administration and excellent customer service to all enquiries to the school. You should have sound literacy and numeracy skills and have a track record of administration work. You should also enjoy working with children and be willing to gain a first aid qualification. Visit <http://elmfield.com/the-school/vacancies/job-vacancies/> to read more and apply using the application form on the website. Closing date 20th April 2018.

**Class Teacher – Vacancy.** To start September 2018. We're looking for an exceptional individual to join our team of committed teachers in September 2018 to take up the post of Class Teacher. You should be a creative individual, prepared to take a group of children on a journey of self-development.

Our selection criteria include the following:

- Waldorf Teaching Diploma or state teaching qualification with understanding and experience of Waldorf education
- A genuine passion for Waldorf education and teaching itself
- Commitment to bring learning alive using art, music, drama, the outdoors and other sources of inspiration
- Enthusiasm and flexibility
- Willingness to play a full role in the school community

You may also be expected to contribute to curriculum development and be asked to take on additional responsibilities as required. As with all teaching posts, you'll also need a minimum of grade C in GCSE English and Maths.

For more details and the application form please visit the school website at <http://elmfield.com/the-school/vacancies/job-vacancies/>.

**Eurythmy Teacher – Vacancy.** We are looking for a committed and inspiring Eurythmy Teacher for Classes 5 to 8 and Upper School Eurythmy blocks/modules. Ideally you should have a Eurythmy qualification, together with either a state teaching qualification, Waldorf Diploma or experience of teaching Eurythmy in a Waldorf School. You should also have excellent classroom management skills and be able to create and maintain a positive and healthy climate for learning, as well as an age appropriate coherent curriculum. For more details and the application form please visit the school website at <http://elmfield.com/the-school/vacancies/job-vacancies/>. Closing date Thursday, 29th March 2018.

**School Doctor/School Health Professional - Vacancy.** We are looking for someone with genuine enthusiasm for Steiner-Waldorf education, and ideally some experience of working in a Waldorf school as a school doctor/school health professional. The successful applicant will work with the school to provide a holistic point of view informed by anthroposophical medical and developmental insights, to offer anthroposophic treatment and to make referrals for therapeutic interventions with the aim of enhancing our understanding of the development of the children and their well-being. They will communicate as necessary with other agencies such as CAMHS or the NHS in cooperation with the school. This is a great opportunity to help shape the lives of the young people in our school. Full details and a description of the role are on the school website at <http://elmfield.com/the-school/vacancies/job-vacancies/>. Closing date Thursday, 29th March 2018.

## PTFA

Many thanks to the PTFA who have generously funded the purchase of four children's beekeeping suits in two different sizes to fit the range of heights in Class 3. Some children have tried them on and, despite cries of, "I can't scratch my nose!", have declared them to be very comfortable. Risk assessments have been drawn up, parents have been consulted, and the plan is to take small groups of children to view the hives down by the pond when the weather is a little warmer, led by our resident bee expert Jane Newsome.

## Wider Community

### EVENTS

**Talk: “A Psychology of Freedom”** by Graham Kennish.

Friday 20th April at 7.30 pm in the Eurythmy Room.

In 1910, at a time when Freud and Jung were setting the scene for 100 years of psychological theories, Rudolf Steiner gave a series of lectures which emphasised the human “I” as the source of the spirit, the healer and mediator in the human soul. Graham’s talk will describe how this area of Steiner’s work was not really developed at the time, despite the fact that it forms the psychological foundation for Steiner’s “philosophy of Freedom” - hence “Psychology of Freedom”.

#### **Two Events at the Glasshouse Arts Centre:**

**Snow White** - Angel Heart Theatre. 20th April 5pm. Tickets £6 Under 5’s Free

Angel Heart Theatre ([www.angelhearttheatre.com](http://www.angelhearttheatre.com)) make a welcome return to the Glasshouse Arts Centre with a new telling of the story of Snow White. Angel Heart’s performances have been engaging and enriching hearts of all ages since 2007. They celebrate their tenth anniversary by breathing new life into this timeless fairy tale, with a visually striking Steam Punk style. This performance is supported by Black Country Touring.

**Honey** - Reaction Theatre Makers. 27th April 7pm. Tickets £8/£6

Just like a jar of honey, this brand new play by Tiffany Hosking has sweetness, richness and depth. Come and explore a patchwork of life in the Welsh mountains where bees, bomb disposal and autism are all wrapped up in folk music to squeeze your senses. As wonderful as any Bees Waggle Dance, Honey’s intimate story weaves together the lives of a young man, his mother, her tattoo artist sister and those that want to love them. Whilst developed for an adult audience, Honey is also a rare opportunity for younger people to be introduced to modern theatre.

For more information on upcoming events and to book tickets please visit our website <https://www.rmlt.org.uk/Pages/Events/Category/stourbridge>

**Ashtanga Yoga at Elmfield** Monday 8.00pm - 9.30pm Beginners’ Course (10 weeks) - an introduction to Ashtanga Yoga (23 April - 9 July) and Thursday 8.00pm - 9.30pm Improvers’ Course (10 weeks) - for people who have a working knowledge of Ashtanga Yoga (26 April - 12 July.) Mind calm - body vibrant. James Critchlow 01384 394 702 / 07967 211748 [www.yogabirmingham.co.uk](http://www.yogabirmingham.co.uk)

**Yoga Classes at Elmfield.** Tuesdays 7pm – Hatha; Thursday 8pm – Yin; Sunday 9.30am – Hatha. All classes are held in the movement Room, Upper School. £8 drop in or £70 for 10. Also morning classes at Churchill Village Hall, DY10 3LU - Tuesdays 9.30am Yin; Fridays 9.30am Hatha. To book or for more info please contact Emma Cartwright on: 07973376267 [www.yogasouls.co.uk](http://www.yogasouls.co.uk); [Namaste@yogasouls.co.uk](mailto:Namaste@yogasouls.co.uk)

**Learn How to Teach Craft to Children** from Kindergarten to age 12, with a holistic approach and natural materials. A year long Handwork Course in London: 2 Saturdays a month from September 2018-July 2019. Cost of the Handwork course: £1850 includes all material and food. For more info please visit [www.threeseedgarden.com](http://www.threeseedgarden.com)

Email: [create@threeseedgarden.com](mailto:create@threeseedgarden.com) Mob : 07813981795 (Sevim)

**Children’s Summer Camp** – 21st to 31st July 2018 at Colin Godman’s farm, Furners Green, near Forest Row, Sussex. For children from 7 to 14 years of age of all backgrounds. Games, singing, art and craft projects, organic farm food, treasure hunt, hiking, improvisation, swimming ... This is an initiative of The Christian Community in Stroud, Gloucestershire  
Full details at [www.cc-camps.org](http://www.cc-camps.org)

**ENSWaP Conference 2018 - "Digital Reality in the Waldorf School"** - 13-15 April 2018 - Bologna, Italy  
The registration fee is €150 which includes the full programme and all food and beverages offered throughout the conference.

The final programme and other information will be posted to the conference page (<http://enswap.org/conferences/2018-bologna/>) where you'll also find contact details to enquire about registering.

## HEALTH

**M.E / C.F.S Research: Free Counselling** - I am offering 4 free counselling sessions for people with M.E / C.F.S. I am a BACP registered psychotherapist and counsellor practising psychophonetics. This method works with movement and sound (as well as talking) which enables us to access deeper levels of ourselves and includes the body. This can be helpful for some people with M.E. / C.F.S. and my research is to establish which elements of this work are most helpful, and to what extent.

Ring Jacqui Williams on 01384 440942 or 07986 747826 to find out more or book a session.

## MUSIC MATTERS

Calling all musicians young and old - our **next Gallimaufry is tonight Friday 16th March 2018** from 7 pm until around 9 pm in the Eurythmy room. Come along and share your musical talents, join in with the impromptu folk band or just enjoy listening. Gallimaufry is an open musical evening and all are welcome - pupils small and big, teachers, parents and friends. We try and have one very term and we are now in our 10th year! As always, yummy bring and share refreshments. Any queries, please ring Julian Gilde after 6 pm on 01384 442 106.

**Stream of Sound concert.** Members of Stream of Sound will be away on their Easter Residential at the beginning of April, but will be giving one concert locally when they return. This will be at St Margaret's Church, Hasbury on Saturday 7th April at 3pm. There will only be one concert this year, because Stream of Sound are teaching and performing at the Waldorf Schools Easter Conference whilst they are on their residential!

The **recent SOS Singing Day for adults** on 3rd March might have been a real flop because of the snow, but fortunately it wasn't! Although many people were snowed in, almost all of the choir reached school, travelling from as far afield as Worcester, Stourport and Birmingham, and we had a great bunch of enthusiastic participants, one of whom had driven all the way from Leominster to join in! We sang and laughed and socialized all day, and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Which is why there will be another...

**Singing Day for Grown-Ups on Saturday 9th June** from 10 – 4 pm. All welcome, and please spread the word! You can book by emailing [caroline.price@elmfield.com](mailto:caroline.price@elmfield.com)

**The Folk Fortnight 2018** will start on 11th June, with concerts/events on the evenings of Friday 15th and Friday 22nd June. More information nearer the time!

Please note that the trumpet and piano concert has been postponed until next term.

## SERVICES

Do you need a **face painter** for your child's birthday party? I am a self-taught face painter for children's parties and events. I can create children's favourites such as frozen, Spiderman, batman and other super hero's etc, animals, butterflies and Princesses and much more. I only use the best products for face painting available which are Snazaroo. If you would like to discuss or have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact me on 07580982278 - Syeda Khan (elmfield parent)

Hello, I am Tara Rose, **a class 11 pupil and I am looking for jobs.** I can do cleaning (all sorts), babysitting, dog walking & cat sitting. If you think I can be of use, please contact Rosa, my mum, on 07986 313838.

Gary (Elmfield parent) offering **professional gardening services and handyman help**. Specialist in garden permaculture, incredible edibles (eat your flowers/perennials/bushes etc), fast efficient general maintenance both in the garden and in the house. Excellent references available on request. Gary 07584 088176. [ecoPONIX@gmail.com](mailto:ecoPONIX@gmail.com)

**Aluminium recycling:** Please note that unfortunately there is no longer the bin by the front lawn to put your aluminium foil and cans in, so you will need to find an alternative arrangement for disposing of them.

**PRIVATE TUITION - Mathematics, Physics and French** - Dear Parents, do you feel your daughter or son might benefit from some after-school support in Maths, Physics or French? I taught all three subjects as an upper and middle school teacher at St. Michael Steiner School in London. Please contact me via email at [elisa.laera@gmail.com](mailto:elisa.laera@gmail.com) or on my mobile at 079 43 87 02 06. Elisa Laera

**Babysitting Services Available!** Previous experience as an Ofsted Registered Childminder and a Mummy! Available weekday and weekend evenings. Contact Jenny on 07929 457355.

**Spanish and Portuguese lessons.** My name is Marie, I was born in Portugal but grew up and attended school and University in Argentina. I lived in Portugal for the last 20 years. If you would like to learn or improve your Spanish or Portuguese, please contact me on weekdays after 2pm, or weekends anytime, on this number 07918767197. Thankyou

**Babysitting services:** My name is Marie, I am 55 years old, Argentinean/ Portuguese, doing my 3rd year training as Steiner kindergarten teacher and doing my work placement (as a volunteer) at Elmfield Steiner School. I am a mum of two grown up children and have been a childminder and nanny for many years. I have some experience with children with special care needs as well. Availability: weekdays after 2,00pm and nights, anytime at weekends and holidays. £8/hour. Mobile 07918767197. Thankyou.

## ACCOMMODATION

**Unique rental opportunity!** Good size first floor room to let in South Road, Stourbridge. Central heating, bathroom and kitchen shared with one other tenant. Use of drive for parking. Reduced rent to suitable female tenant willing to give simple regular help to elderly lady. Further details and an application form from [thoroughlyhelpinghands@mail.com](mailto:thoroughlyhelpinghands@mail.com)

**HOUSE FOR SALE:** 4-bedroom Victorian semi-detached house in Stourbridge Old Quarter is soon to go on the market. For details ring 01384 394 709.

**Room available from Easter onwards.** Location: Old Quarter (Green Street). Rent: £300 per month. For inquiries phone Anna: 01384-395623

**Finca (cottage) in Mallorca** with small swimming pool, sleeps 6 (+ 2 in independent Casita outside) surrounded by fields but in walking distance to delightful village square, with bank, chemist and shops. 20 minutes by car from the airport and with good bus and train connections all over the island. Two families could go together but be independent.

See <https://www.airbnb.co.uk/rooms/430885> for photos and details, but much lower rates will apply: email Graham at [kennish46@gmail.com](mailto:kennish46@gmail.com) or phone 07973 680959

## OPPORTUNITIES

We at Raphael House Rudolf Steiner School are looking for more international students to enhance our multi-cultural environment. Raphael House is situated in the capital city of New Zealand, Wellington, and is surrounded by bush and trees. We have a good track record of welcoming and supporting international students, and hope to encourage more students to our shores. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact [international@raphaelhouse.school.nz](mailto:international@raphaelhouse.school.nz)

## SALES AND WANTED ETC

For sale: Single memory foam mattress. Almost new. Free to anyone who can collect it. Doesn't suit me.  
Jacqui Williams 01384 440942

*Last but not least...*

*“Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet.  
Try to make sense of what you see and wonder about  
what makes the universe exist. Be curious.  
And however difficult life may seem, there is always  
something you can do and succeed at.  
It matters that you don't just give up.”*

*Stephen Hawking  
1942-2018*

