

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>



Next issue: Friday 18th January

Please email any entries to 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 30 Nov	3.30 pm	"Brave the shave" fundraising event - Hall
Mon 3 Dec	8.50 am	Advent assemblies begin
		Class 11 on trip to London
Tues 4 Dec	7.30 pm	Stream of Sound choir - Eurythmy room
Wed 5 Dec	6.00 pm	PTFA meeting - Teachers' Library
	8.00 pm	Community choir - Hall
Fri 14 Dec	5.00 pm	Class 3 Play - Eurythmy room
	7.00 pm	Gallimaufrey - Eurythmy room
Wed 19 Dec	12.30 pm	Early Years Department end of term
	1.50 for 2.00 pm	Christmas end of term festival
Thurs 20 Dec	12.00 pm	School term ends
	8.30am - 4.00pm	Elmfield Gift Shop open
Fri 21 Dec	10.00am - 2.00pm	Elmfield Gift Shop open
Sat 22 Dec	7.30 pm	Stream of Sound Christmas concert - Hall
Wed 9 Jan	10.00am - 2.00pm	Elmfield Gift Shop open
Thurs 10 Jan		Spring term begins
Wed 16 Jan	1.00 pm	<i>Deadline for copy for next Loose Ends</i>
Fri 18 Jan	Afternoon	<i>Next issue of Loose Ends</i>

Elmfield News and Information

A brief roundup of some recent goings on...

- Class 5 held a fantastic "Indian Night" as a fundraiser and to complement their main lesson on Ancient India. Delicious food, exquisite costumes and fabulous dancing were enjoyed by all.
- The Winter Fayre was a wonderful event with such a lovely atmosphere appreciated by the whole community. Every year it is a huge undertaking to make the Fayre happen and the staff would like to pass on their heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make it happen, your hard work is greatly appreciated!
- 'The Elves and the Shoe Maker' puppet show was wonderfully received by all the Early Years children and staff this week. A huge thank you to Johannes, Julia, Ali, Celine, Catherine and Jane for putting on this wonderful performance.

Braving the shave! James in Class 9 is bravely having his hair cut off this afternoon Friday 30th November at 3.30 pm in the school hall, to raise money for Macmillan cancer research. Please support him in this fantastic effort by donating via: <https://bravetheshave.macmillan.org.uk/shavers/james-green>

Elmfield Gift Shop. Many thanks to everyone for their custom last Saturday - a very enjoyable Winter Fayre! Now we are busy preparing for Advent and Christmas! Don't worry if, as you read this, you realise that you haven't yet purchased one of our beautiful Advent Calendars! We will continue to have a range of both small & large ones for the first week of December. Dr Hauschka gift boxes are now available - each full-sized item is presented with 2 free 30ml products. A great value gift - limited stocks available. For those of you who like to leave making your festive purchases until the end of term - we will be open all day on Thursday 20th December, and between 10am - 2pm on Friday 21 December. We re-open 10am - 2pm on Wednesday 9th January 2019. The Shop Team

Parents' Library. Open throughout the term on Wednesdays (8.45am - 9.45am) Now located in Elmfield Gift Shop. Our last session will be on Wednesday 19th December. Any books taken out now will be due back in January. We will take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support of this resource. And if you've not used the library yet - maybe make it your New Year resolution to come and have a look next year! The Library Team

Homework Club for Classes 6, 7 and 8 - Tuesday and Thursdays after school, 3.30 pm to 5.15 pm. We provide a relaxed environment where pupils can receive support with their set homework and/or have a quiet dedicated space to study. The cost is £9.50 per session (£7.50 if you arrive at 4.00 pm) and places are offered on a first come basis. For more details please contact the office.

Estates - The estates department are currently building up a nursery of plants outside our hut ready for planting next year. If you have any healthy plants at home that you no longer want and would like to see go to a good home, please bring them in and either give them to Steve Hall or leave them outside our hut. Thank you. Kind Regards, Tal Taylor-Bright, Estates Manager

JOB VACANCIES

*If you are interested in any of the following roles please visit the job vacancies section of the school website - <http://elmfield.com/the-school/vacancies/job-vacancies/> - to read more and apply using the **application form** that each particular job links to on the website.*

Members of the School's Council of Management - Chair of Council and Employment

We are looking for two outstanding individuals to join our Council of Management – the School's Governing Body. Members of the Council of Management act as the trustees of Elmfield Rudolf Steiner School which is a charity and a registered company. The role of Trustee is a voluntary position.

Meeting at least six times a year on a Tuesday evening the Council is accountable for upholding the Waldorf ethos, strategic decision making, and maintaining the financial and educational viability of the school through the effective use of resources.

We are inviting applications from diplomatic, constructive and professional people who have a genuine passion for independent education.

- **Chair of Council** - The role of Chair of Council is a vital position at Elmfield. Amongst many things, you will be responsible for setting the agenda and chairing Council meetings; working effectively with the school leadership team; and taking overall responsibility for long-term planning and strategy. Please refer to the job description on the website for full details of the role. Completed application forms should be submitted to info@elmfield.com by 7th January 2018. For further information or an informal discussion regarding the role, please contact Rainer Klocke, Acting Chair at councilchair@elmfield.com
- **Employment** - We currently have a need to appoint an individual with recent Employment and Human Resource expertise to our team. A job description is available on the school website. For further information or an informal discussion regarding the role, please contact Rainer Klocke, Acting Chair at councilchair@elmfield.com. Applications should arrive by 7th January 2018.

Temporary cleaner - Starting ASAP

Due to an extended staff absence we are looking for a committed, reliable and hard-working temporary cleaner to join our cleaning team from 4pm to 6pm every weekday, all year round. To apply, you should

have an excellent work ethic and have very high standards of tidiness and cleanliness. You will be accountable for the standard of cleanliness in one designated area within the school. You should have a helpful and flexible approach to work and be committed to providing excellent customer service to all visitors and staff. School cleaning experience would be an advantage.

The role is 10 hours per week, paid at £7.83 per hour. We provide 6 weeks' paid holiday per year. The role is not eligible for reduced tuition fees for employees' children.

School Doctor/School Health Professional

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.



The PTFA are delighted to be able to announce the grand total for the Winter Fayre 2018 after all costs have been deducted: £5885.05

This is an amazing amount of money raised. The whole school community should be very proud of this achievement and the overall success of Saturday.

We would like to thank you all for supporting the Winter Fayre so generously. The fayre was not only an effective fundraising event but also a fun, festive day where children, parents and staff collectively celebrated being a part of the Elmfield community. It was lovely for the children and parents to have a social event together.

A BIG THANK YOU must go to all the hard-working people who helped before, on the day and after the fayre. The fayre would not have been possible without the huge help and support from many different people in the school community, parents, friends, and grandparents etc. who came forward at different stages of the whole organisational process.

A special thanks goes to Amy and her team for the amazing food, Rhiannon Biddulph Williams and her team for the hot drinks and cakes, Rhiannon Taylor Bright, Louise Westley, Steph Green and their team for the beautiful decorations and decorating the school on Friday, Mary Biddulph for sourcing the raffle prizes from local companies, all the musicians who played on Saturday, Nigel for the lovely table decorations, and the Estates team for the arches, wooden stars and generally helping the PTFA with the fayre.

Thank you for all the donations we received for the different stalls from cakes and food for the cafe, prizes for the tombola and raffle, items for the gnome gardens, pre-loved toys and clothes etc.

We are trying to gather as much feedback as we can so please take a minute to complete our survey and share your thoughts with us - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3HS9DDP>

Wider Community

EVENTS

Puppet Show - "The Elves and the Shoe maker". ALL WELCOME on Friday 21st of December at 4pm at the Christian Community, 22 Baylie Street, Stourbridge, DY8 1AZ - by donation, minimum suggested £3.

Workshop exploring developmental movement patterns - Sunday December 16th, 11.30 am - 1.30 pm at the Soul Shala in the heart of Stourbridge. Run by Harriet Quinn - dance artist, yoga teacher and somatic movement educator. Through tracing these patterns we are able to invite ease into the body and recognise habits or limitations that we have learnt through our adult life, through injury or illness or habits. Explored through the practice of Body Mind Centring we will incorporate bodywork and hands on touch to bring attention and awareness to our holistic moving body. We will create a cosy safe space to explore these sensitive movements and invite some time for rest and recuperation. If you have concerns with being embodied through your movement or would like you improve you physical practice this is a very gentle way to drop down into your sensing body and tune into mindful movement.

For more information or to book please feel free to call or email Harriet directly on 07512352360 / hpquinn@hotmail.co.uk

Ashtanga Yoga at Elmfield Monday 8.00pm - 9.30pm Beginners' Course (10 weeks) - an introduction to Ashtanga Yoga (Starts: 14 January 2019) and Thursday 8.00pm - 9.30pm Improvers' Course (10 weeks) - for people who have a working knowledge of Ashtanga Yoga (Starts: 17 January 2019) Please visit my website, from mid-December, for full listings of the course dates: www.yogabirmingham.co.uk
Mind calm - body vibrant. James Critchlow 01384 394 702 / 07967211748

Come Play With Me - A Steiner inspired family group held on Wednesday mornings from 9.30 - 11.30. Children up to school age are most welcome with their parent or carer. We play, bake a snack and enjoy songs and rhymes together. If you would like to join us in the community room at the Christian Community, 22 Baylie Street, please contact Janet Klaar, 01384 352177 or by email janetklaar@yahoo.co.uk
We look forward to welcoming new members to our group.

ELIANT stands for **European Alliance of Initiatives for Applied Anthroposophy** and amongst other things, seeks to maintain choice in education, for instance the informed choice against use of digital media in an Early Years school's setting. Please see <https://eliant.eu/en/home/> for further information and support this movement and its petition, if you can. Thank you. Rainer Klocke (Rainer.Klocke@elmfield.com)

HEALTH

A series of **free talks and workshops at the Elysia Centre** from January 14th

To keep up to date and to ensure you don't miss this opportunity to participate in the Centre's programme of events, please sign-up to our e-newsletter via <https://elysiacentre.org/contact/>

Free Counselling for people with M.E / Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. As an ongoing research project I can offer 4 free counselling sessions. We will explore your relationship with the illness, the extent to which you have become a victim to it and you will learn some techniques to strengthen your resilience. For information and to book an appointment phone: Jacqui Williams 01384 440942.

Short-term problem - Focussed Psychotherapy. Psychophonetics offers an intense and in-depth exploration of a particular problem. We go through a process of observing the issue on different levels (spiritual, emotional, practical), finding new knowledge about it and from this finding the action that is necessary. Psychophonetics works with the idea that if we are willing to take on a difficulty, we will strengthen ourselves. Sessions are at least 1.5 hours and may include movement and sound. Sliding scale of payment. Contact Jacqui Williams (BACP registered psychotherapist) 01384 440942.

Are you suffering from back problems, muscular tension, poor posture or perhaps from insomnia, stress and anxiety? Physiotherapy (holistic approach); Rhythmical Massage Therapy: 1-1 Modified Pilates are offered as separate therapies or as an integrated approach at the Elysia Therapeutic Centre. For info: www.annavanzelder.com - For appointments please phone Anna: 0778 9852 378

MUSIC

Many thanks to all the Staff, parents, Instrument teachers, pupils and former pupils who played in Elmfield's 'Pop-up Orchestra' on Saturday. It was a great experience for those involved, and the sound was magnificent! Well done! Caroline Price

- **Stream of Sound's 20th Christmas Concert** - Saturday 22nd December at 7:30 pm at Elmfield, for our own community! Would you like to start your Christmas in peace and calm, with some beautiful harmonies? We'd like to invite you to Stream of Sound's Christmas concert this year. We bring you a delightful selection of unusual seasonal songs and carols, which together with a festive atmosphere, convivial company and delicious refreshments, will set you up for the coming festive season. Donations on the door.
- **If you have ever been a part of Stream of Sound**, then you may be as amazed as I am that the choir has been running for twenty years now, and you are a part of our story! So this Christmas on the afternoon of Saturday 22nd December, we're having a **re-union get-together from 2 - 4pm**. It's the same day as our concert, and so you can come along in the afternoon, and then sing some songs with us in the evening concert! Please tell all the former Stream of Sound singers that you know (there are about 300 of them world wide!) and we'll see how many we can have all singing together! If you plan to come along, email me on Caroline.price@elmfield.com
- Did you know that over the Summer, **Stream of Sound released their 8th CD?** Entitled 'This Tale I Tell', it's a collection of traditional songs from the West Midlands - we noticed that people sing songs from the north, and songs from the south, but we felt that the middle of the country was under-represented! We took the new CD on tour to Devon, and then to Orkney, and found people were very excited about it, so we sold loads of the CDs! We're mentioning it now because these CDs make great Christmas presents, and they're on sale in the Elmfield bookshop, or at our concerts.

Caroline Price

CALLING ALL MUSCIANS YOUNG AND OLD - Our next GALLIMAUFY will be on Friday 14th December 2018. Come along and share your musical talents, join in with the impromptu folk band or just listen, from 7 pm until around 9 pm in the Eurythmy room. Gallimaufry is an open musical evening and all are welcome - pupils small and big, teachers, parents and friends. We try and have one every term and it's an excellent opportunity to practice playing in front of a small and friendly audience and share what you have been working on or prepare for an exam. As always, yummy bring and share refreshments. Any queries, please ring Julian Gilde after 6 pm on 01384 442 106.

SERVICES

English Tuition: For students aged 11-16 years. I have vacancies for local students who are at school, home educated or just need a little extra attention. If you think I can help your child in their studies, call or email me now for a free consultation - 01384 380286 alison.cooke4@btinternet.com

Painter and Decorator. Local and reliable painter with a preference for using eco-friendly paint available for inside and outside work. Call James on 07805 943 697 for a free quote.

Home services - All kinds of gardening work from maintenance to make-over. House painting - interior and exterior. All kinds of odd jobs considered. Call Martin and leave a message or text, 0744 216 2030.

2nd Nature Garden Maintenance - John and Kim Dutton are experienced gardeners grounded in *Permacul-*

ture and Biodynamic principles, with over 40 years combined experience, offering all kinds of garden maintenance, including free tree pruning. Give us a call on 07807 348239, or email duttons2ndnature@yahoo.com

Need a friendly, reliable, hard-working extra pair of hands? Thoroughly Helping Hands currently has capacity to help more clients, with new team members in place. If it's moral and legal we'd love to help you! Meals, catering, cleaning, gardening, tuition, tip runs, company, you name it, we can probably help with it. Call Georgie on 07792 775751 for a chat and free no obligation visit or have a look at our website: www.thoroughlyhelpinghands.com

Looking for a job in Stourbridge. My name is Matej Rybka; I am 23 years old and I come from the Czech Republic. I am looking for a job doing manual labour, starting September 2018 during the weekends in order to finance my eurythmy studies in Stourbridge. I am open, dynamic and serious about work. I have experience with garden cleaning and maintaining, with working in a vineyard, as well as in the forest. If you are interested, please contact me at my e-mail address: rybkamatej@seznam.cz or via my telephone: +420608053006 I look forward to discussing this with you. Matej Rybka

Do you need an au-pair from February to July? My name is Leonie Gröllich, I'm 21 years old and a former Waldorf-student from Germany. Having spent a year in Italy working as an au-pair, I would now like to spend some time in England as an au-pair, with a family which is also living a Waldorf-pedagogy. I look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes, leonie.groellich@web.de

Percussion lessons. Hello: my name is Sebastian Diaz, I'm a professional drummer from Chile and a eurythmy student in Stourbridge. I have more than 10 years' experience teaching drums, hand percussion, and Latin rhythms. I can teach drums and percussion to children (bongo, djembe, Cajon, etc. – can also be a group class with the parents). You can contact me by email sidiazc@gmail.com or phone/WhatsApp 07512 051 506. Thanks.

My name is Tatjana, and I am just completing a Eurythmy course. I am looking for work in the Stourbridge area. I am able to do many **house/home types of work** including: cleaning, shopping, sewing, mending, ironing, cooking, baking, shopping for you. I can also do some care work, and child-sitting, and as a German speaker can help with German language, such as translation. Also, as I am a trained art therapist I can do arts and craft, paint you a picture or give painting lessons for example. Please contact me by phone, text - 07966845749 - or email xitaty@gmail.com

ACCOMMODATION

Lovely cedar clad garden room in Kinver. Parking and totally independent access with small living room/kitchenette with wood burner, separate bedroom and ensuite. Outside patio area and laundry available in main house. Fully furnished and available from 1 Jan initially for a six-month period. Five minutes-walk to village and bus stop. Ideal for single person but could work for a couple. Call 07729 786040

Room wanted in Stourbridge. I am Mavi, the new Eurythmy teacher at the school and I am still looking for a room to move in as soon as possible! I have long term intentions and enjoy calmness and going to school by bike. If you have an empty room available or you hear about any please let me know, very much appreciated. 07849 859 970 mavi.sanabriacar@elmfield.com

We are looking for a 2-bedroom house to rent (preferably in central Stourbridge) for my brother and myself. Would need to be available by the end of February and DSS and pets need to be accepted (we have 3 very well-behaved cats!). If you know of anything, please feel free to pop into the gift shop on Mondays and speak to Lauren or give me a call on 01384 353616.

SALES, OFFERS AND WANTED

Wanted - Flute suitable for beginner please. Do you have one to sell? If so please contact Mary on 01384 442437.

ADVENT STRINGS FOR SALE. A small gift to unwrap each day of Advent beginning on Sunday 2nd December and ending on Christmas Eve. Many of the gifts are handmade and they reflect the treasures of the mineral, plant and animal kingdoms and culminate in the wonder of the Nativity. The price is £20 per string plus £4 to have it posted. Please telephone 0115 9392353 to place your order. Thanks, Eliza Conway

Locally produced raw unprocessed honey available, straight from the hive to you. Raw honey can be used in the same manner as manuka, both topically and internally. 454g/1LB jars are £5 each. I also have a small quantity of proper **organic free-range eggs** available from our resident hens. They are naturally reared, using homeopathy and holistic methods. 6 eggs are £1.25 each. Both items can be collected from school on Weds, Thurs and Fri mornings. For more information or to arrange collection of either eggs or honey, please ring me, Tina, 07974 679461

Last but not least...

*“The pessimist complains about the wind;
the optimist expects it to change;
the realist adjusts the sails.”*

William Arthur Ward

