

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 21st June

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 24 May	7 pm	Class 8 performance of "A Midsummer Night's dream" by William Shakespeare - Hall <i>School closes for half term</i>
Mon 3 June		<i>School reopens for second half of Summer term</i>
Tues 4 June	7.30 pm	Class 7 go on class trip until Friday 7th June Stream of Sound - Eurythmy Room
Wed 5 June		Class 3 go on trip to Avoncroft Class 4 go on trip to Black Country Museum Class 9 Silver DofE expedition until Fri 7 June
	8 pm	Adults' Eurythmy group - Eurythmy Room
	8 pm	Community Choir - Hall
Mon 10 June		Folk Fortnight begins
Thurs 13 June		Class 8 Bronze DofE expedition until Fri 14 June
Fri 14 June	7.30 pm	Folk Concert and Ceilidh - Hall
Sat 15 June	tbc	Community work day
Mon 17 June	7 pm	Early years Parents' evenings
Wed 19 June	1 pm	<i>Deadline for copy for next Loose Ends</i>
Fri 21 June	Afternoon	St Johns' Festival <i>Next issue of Loose Ends</i>
		Class 3 go on camping trip to Kinver
	7.30 pm	Folk Concert - Hall
Sat 22 June	tbc	Summer Fayre
Mon 24 June		Class 10 to Centre for Alternative Technology, return 28 June
Wed 26 June		Class 5 go on trip to Michael Hall Olympics, return 29 June
		Class 11 go on trip to Croatia, return 3 July
Thurs 27 June	6.30 pm	PTFA meeting
Sat 29/Sun 30 June		Class 8 go on Bronze assessed D of E expedition

Elmfield News and Information

A brief roundup of some recent goings on...

- Class 9 had a fantastic two weeks in Germany staying with host families at our sister school Schloss Hamborn and working on the school farm

- Class 7 did a research project on the conquistadores as part of their Spanish lessons, linking it in with learning the past tense
- Classes 10 and 11 started their GCSE exams and we wish them all the best of luck
- Class 8 completed the projects they have been doing this year and presented them individually
- Classes 1 to 5 took part in our annual maypole festival in glorious sunshine on the front lawn
- C7 undertook a day walk in the local area practising their navigation skills as part of their Elm award
- Classes 1 to 6 walked up Wychbury Hill yesterday for our annual Ascension Day walk. It was such a lovely atmosphere enjoyed by all the pupils and staff

Dear Class 4 to 11 parents, do any of you still have **pentatonic flutes** from when your children were in class 1 and 2? If so, would you be willing to give, loan or sell them to the parents of next year's class 1? If you do and are willing to, please let me know. These are quite expensive items and I am trying to find ways of reducing the cost of them for the parents of that class. Many thanks, Gavin Ferris, class 8 teacher.

Class 7 Geography of Asia - Speakers wanted. Next half term the class will be studying the geography of Asia. I would like to warmly welcome visitors into the class who are either from Asia or have experience travelling in Asia. I am looking for people with individual stories to tell about their experiences, but also people who would like to do activities with the class such as cooking, playing games etc. If you are interested, please contact me via email or come and speak to me. The block will be between Monday 1st July - Friday 12th July. Many thanks, Sarah Loughlin, Class 7 Teacher. sarah.loughlin@elmfield.com

Estates are hosting a **community work day on Saturday 15th June**. Our main project for the day will be to level and prepare the ground that used to be home to our old maintenance hut, ready for the new curriculum garden. Work has already begun on planting fruit trees and bushes for the Waldorf 100 but there's much more to do and we would welcome anyone willing to give a few hours of their time. This is a great chance to meet new people and have fun working with fellow parents. More details will follow soon so please pencil the date in your diary. Thank you. Tal Taylor-Bright, Estates Manager

Elmfield Gift Shop The shop is now closed for the Half Term break. We re-open on Monday 3 June. Special offer: 10% off Faith in Nature shampoos, conditioners & body washes. Now £5.20 each. (Limited offer - whilst stock available!) New: The Pica Pica range of stained-glass hanging decorations has been extended to include clouds (£8.00) & birds (£15.00) These beautiful, handcrafted items - made by an Elmfield parent - would make a lovely gift! Fused glass jewellery also available. And finally - now is the time to visit - to check out our bookshelves! We have added new books to all areas of stock. Including the ever-popular 'Bargain Books' - sold at considerably discounted prices! The Shop Team

Parents' Library Open throughout the term on Wednesdays (8.45am - 9.45am) Now located in Elmfield Gift Shop. On return from the Half-Term break - we hope to return to some fundraising for the library book fund. So watch out for mini sales of books & jigsaws. (In the shop garden area - weather permitting!) The Library Team

Correction to start of term letter: The paragraph about mobile phones that mentioned wi-fi should have instead read "Please can we remind you that Elmfield School and its grounds are a mobile-free zone. It is a safeguarding requirement that parents and visitors turn off their phones while they are on the school site."

Uncollected: a hand-made eating board made to order for Jill ----- has not been collected from the school office since the 2017 Christmas Fayre. If you ordered this board and forgot about collecting it please contact either Janet or Justus Klaar on 01384 352177 or 07933 147 180. If it is not collected, by the end of the summer term 2019, it will go back into stock for another bazaar.

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.

- Class 7 Teacher - Closing date 31st May
- GCSE French Teacher - Closing date 31st May
- Upper School Science/Maths Teacher - Closing date 31st May
- Member of the School's Council of Management - Chair of Council
- Member of the School's Council of Management - Employment

Wider Community

EVENTS

Clay workshops: Come and learn to shape this wonderful material. A calm and relaxing way to spend your time whilst learning a new skill. Monday 10th June for pupils from 3.30 - 4.30, £10 from class 2 upwards (10 places). Saturday 15th June for adults £25 (6 places). Venue - Elmfield School's Pottery room.

Sunday 2nd of June, 7:00 pm at The Christian Community, 22 Baylie St. Stourbridge, DY8 1AZ
Anthropos presents: 'The Incarnation of the Logos', an Epic Tale of Christ's Coming to Earth
 Told by actor and storyteller Glen Williamson. Suggested donation: £10 - £20

Fantastic **Midlands Sailing Course in Half Term** for 7 – 16 year olds. Barnt Green Sailing Club are running a 3 day course for youngsters to begin sailing. Monday 27th – Wednesday 29th May. It's not too late to book! For more information: <https://www.sailingbarntgreen.com/event/easter-3-day-junior-training-1-1> or contact: trainingprincipal@bgsc.uk

The Community Workshop and Café in Bewdley is a not for profit community workshop providing opportunities in traditional arts and crafts: lino printing, charcoal/water colour, stained glass, jewellery, copper work, willow, mandala rugs, bodhran drum-making, blacksmithing, photography, mosaic, and lyre-making.

Summer Week Workshops: Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and you will have the opportunity to choose one or two activities to work on during the week. Materials, lunch and snacks will be provided. The workshops are suitable for ages 10 to 97¾ (younger ones welcome accompanied by an adult). Booking essential; deposit of £50 per person is required. Week 1: 22 - 26 July; Week 2: 5 - 9 August; Week 3: 19 - 23 August. Full week: £190.00; £160 for 2nd & subsequent places.

Day workshops: between our workshop full weeks, we are running ½ and full day workshops, an ideal introduction to an art or craft. There is no set timetable for these: we will plan the day depending on what you'd like to do, so booking is essential. Just pick a day that suits you and a craft, and we will book you in. Our café will be open for you to purchase lunch and snacks. Price for ½ day £15 + materials, full day £30 + materials. To find out more visit: www.cwcafe.com, call us on 07984 354682 or email thecwcafe@gmail.com

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.

Come Play With Me now also has an **all-weather outdoor woodland group**, generally held on the first Thursday of every month during term time. Please meet at the Christian Community Car park, 22, Baylie Street, Stourbridge, no later than 9.15am for everyone to leave together and for lifts to be allocated to those who do not have their own transport. Please bring your own drinks for your children. Snacks will be provided. Cost is £3 per family. We are using a private woodland near to Stourbridge and there are horses there and sometimes goats and piglets in an enclosure.

If you wish to come please contact Amy Malkin: amymalkin83@gmail.com to finalise any arrangements.

Active Practical Love - Talk by Dr.Tessabella Lovemore - Learning to increase our ability for love and compassion through deeper insights into human relationships. Friday 28th June at 7.30pm - Eurythmy Room Elmfield School. This talk will outline the possibility of developing active practical love through a process of inner change leading to a deeper understanding of human relationships. Learning to love in this way expands

your consciousness and can change your life and the lives of people around you. Dr. Tessabella Lovemore PhD. is a Social Scientist, Education Consultant and Counsellor. She has developed courses on the subject. In September 2019 there will be the start of a second round of the "Active Practical Love course" in Stourbridge. Suggested contributions for the talk £5

Steiner Waldorf Early Childhood Education. All those interested in the education of the young child, parents as well as prospective early years leaders are warmly invited to come to an **Introductory Weekend Course:** May 31st, 6.30 - 9.00pm and Saturday June 1st, 8.30 - 4.00pm. Come and find out about the value of play and the principles underlying the Steiner early childhood approach. There will be opportunities to meet current students, see round the school, to make a wet on wet painting, make simple toys, and enjoy a ring-time and a story time. The cost of the course is £85 and includes vegetarian meals. Please contact Jill Taplin 0178250456 jill@neswec.org.uk www.neswec.org.uk We look forward to meeting you there.

Freestyle expressive dancing - We are offering freestyle/expressive dance sessions in the Eurythmy Hall, Elmfield School, Love Lane, Stourbridge, from 6:30 - 8:30pm on Saturday evenings, once a month approximately. Everyone is welcome over the age of 18 or so - we're sorry not to be able to cater to children. No dance experience needed at all! No expectations. Moving if you want to or not. Chairs will be available if you want to sit. We'll start with a warm up just to break the ice a little, to help us begin to connect inwardly and outwardly. There will be music of different genres and tempos. £8 or £6 concessions. Next dates are Saturday June 29, and Saturday July 13. Contact us if any questions. In anticipation and excitement! Maria Mountain (maria.mntn@gmail.com) and Odilia Mabrouk (odilia.mabrouk@gmail.com).

Children's Summer Camp for children from 8 to 14 years of age. 20th – 30th July 2019: Colin Godman's Farm near Forest Row, Sussex. Games, Singing, Arts and Crafts, Organic food, Treasure Hunt, Hiking, Stories, Swimming...Contact: Aaron Mirkin 01453 299311 ccstroud@talktalk.net www.cc-camps.org

HEALTH

HEALING GONGS SOUNDBATH with Sarah Westwood Sat 15th June 7.15pm – 8.30pm. An amazing way to de-stress, deeply relax and expand your inner awareness, using beautiful instruments. Booking and all info here: <https://www.primalsound.uk/event/healing-gongs-soundbath-stourbridge-15th-june-19>

The Elysia Therapeutic Centre invites you to join our series of **FREE open talks and workshops** during June. Just come along on the day or register your interest at info@elysiacentre.org

4th June, 6.45pm – 7.45pm: An Introduction to Mindfulness. Discover how the practice of mindfulness can improve the quality of life, by bringing a sense of clarity, calm and perspective to everyday situations. Sue Rogers, Psychotherapist /Counsellor & Mindfulness Practitioner along with Sarah Lucas, Teacher & Mindfulness Practitioner, will also be running a course in the autumn dedicated to this topic. This evening talk is an opportunity to meet them and learn more about what this course will entail.

18th June, 8.00 pm – 9.30 pm: Personal Transformation. An insightful workshop with Bernardus Nijhuis, Transformational Mental Coach. Most solutions can be found when you learn to look at yourself and the world from a different angle. Life is a path on which you hope you will bring yourself to the fullest possible extent of expression. As an adult, you can encounter resistance and struggles on your way. This resistance can help you to become stronger or indicate a new direction in your life in which you can reveal more of your true self. Sometimes when the resistance is so huge you can find yourself in an undesirable stress, victim or conflict situation. Your life seems to be more determined by the problems and your response to them, interfering with your ability to direct your own life.

Instead of speaking of problems, Bernardus prefers to speak about possibilities, which reveal themselves in uncomfortable experienced situations. Art contributes to transform, deepen and anchor experiences on different soul levels. For this reason, Bernardus also uses role-play, singing, painting, drawing and clay sculpturing as part of the healing process. Come along and hear more about Bernardus's work.

25th June, 5.30pm – 6.30pm: Self-Hypnosis for Everyday Life. Using the power of your own mind, discover how you can use this natural and effective approach to improve wellbeing and bring about positive

and lasting changes. Emma Price is an Integrative Therapist and an affiliate member of the British Society of Clinical Hypnosis (BSCH). She practises Hypnotherapy, Stress Management & Relaxation.

Women's Wellness Day - be nurtured, be nourished: Saturday, 13 July 2019, 9.30 am – 4.30 pm

You are invited to attend a one-day Therapeutic Wellbeing Retreat focused on Women's Wellness.

* Develop your understanding of your life's phases as a woman - what to expect and how you can support yourself, so that you can take care of yourself in a holistic and empowering way.

* Take time to receive one-on-one pampering and relaxation.

The perfect way to begin your summer holiday!

Composition of the Day: 'Discovery' - Two informative talks and exploration: 1. Biographical Journey: the life's phases of a woman – with Annette Gordon, Biographical Counsellor; 2. Women's Health – with Dr Claudia Kempfen, GP and Anthroposophical Medical Practitioner. 'Nourishment' - Mindful movement exercises with Eurythmist, Ursula Werner

Enjoy a delicious, homemade organic lunch

'Re-balancing' - Receive three 45-minute individual therapy sessions that you have chosen from:

Kinesiology with Jonathan Livingstone; Nutritional Therapy with Lara Seago; Holistic Facial Treatment with Elizabeth King; Eurythmy – mindful movement with Ursula Werner; Either: Rhythmical Einreibung – Therapeutic Touch Massage with Fiona Sim, or Reflexology or Rhythmical Massage with Monika Horber
Relaxation Therapy with Emma Price

Cost: £75. Booking deposit of £35 required. Bookings close on 1 July. Please book in advance as spaces are limited. For more information and to register your booking please contact Elizabeth elizabeth@elysiacentre.org or 01384 392072.

Rooms for Hire at the Elysia Therapeutic Centre - 52 Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge DY8 3RZ

Would you like to bring your practice to the Elysia Therapeutic Centre? We are a therapeutic membership community run by a Limited Liability Partnership (LLP). We have 2 counselling rooms, 1 consulting room, 2 massage therapy rooms and a group work and art/movement room. All the rooms are decorated harmoniously and delicately, to feel both homelike and professional. The Centre has a particular feeling: open and airy, in part because of its architecture, as it is an "Arts and Crafts" house, with a lovely aspect to the sun and generous windows. Set in a small garden, in the Old Quarter of Stourbridge. Why not come and meet us, have a look around and find out more? For further information visit our website <https://elysiacentre.org/join-us/> or contact the Centre on 01384 392072.

SERVICES

Learn to Drive: If you have always wanted to learn to drive then please give me a ring. I have taught countless pupils and parents from Elmfield over the last 10 years. I am a Grade A instructor and within the top 2% of best instructors UK wide. Don't worry if you are nervous or you think it is overwhelming. It is a step by step process and anything can be overcome. You will learn in an environment that is fun, gentle, understanding and follows test guidelines in order to ensure success. I use various techniques to help put you at your ease. Our space together is a safe space and, let's face it, if you are enjoying your learning then it is something you look forward to and the good habits will stay with you for life. You have one chance only, to get it right and keep yourself, friends and family safe. My pass rate is very high due to the fact that I do not send people for test before they are ready. I want you to pass first time, not take 5 tests to get there.... I have space for 2 pupils at the moment. Call Bridgit 0772 695 3033

Will you spare an hour to **protect your children's future**? That's how long it would take to appoint suitable guardians and specify your wishes should you die unexpectedly, perhaps including that they continue their Steiner-Waldorf Education. Informal arrangements are not legally binding and in the absence of proper provision the State will choose guardians and your children may end up in foster care while this decision is made. This is my profession and I'm passionate about helping fellow Elmfield parents protect their families. I am offering this service to Elmfield for just £100 +VAT per Parent. Get in touch on 07815 313104 or john@asset-wealth.co.uk

Handyman/gardener available for work - anything considered, reasonable rates, references available. Contact Hans on 01384 830758 or via Maigread in the reception office.

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.

Creative Young People Parties at Rosewindows Stained Glass Studio - Rosewindows stained glass can cater for a creative birthday party, making glass mosaics or a small stained glass piece, depending of the age. Kiln-formed glass activities will be on offer in the near future. Contact Rosa Ferris to discuss your wishes and a quote on 079 8631 3838 or look at her website www.rosewindows.net

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.

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

ACCOMMODATION

Student from "Eurythmy West Midlands Glasshouse Arts Centre" **looking for housing or flat to share** in or around Stourbridge. Ideally near to the Arts Centre. From the end of August 2019 to July 2020.

E-MAIL: cisneluluy@gmail.com MOBILE-WHATSAPP: +34 627 02 44 55

House Sitters Available: 24th June – 28th June. Family of 4 available to house/pet sit while the children have their trial visit at Elmfield. Can do weekends either end if needed. Please contact Danielle - 07852 746129

I would like to offer accommodation to anyone interested in helping out on my horse farm near Envile. I have a small Shepard's hut in a beautiful location for a lodger willing to help around the farm or maybe just around the house. This can be a completely flexible arrangement based around your skills and how you feel you could best support. Ideally due to the semi-rural location you would be able to drive and have your own car but not essential. To find out more please contact Arran on 07879 472 433.

Temporary Accommodation in Stourbridge during the summer: 1 double room: August and September - £90 per week for 1 person, £120 for two; 1 single room: July, August and September - £80 per week; 1 single room: June, July, August, September - £60 per week; Whole flat: August and September - £180 per week. These prices are inclusive of electricity and water. No pets please. The rooms are in a pleasant flat in Amblecote, Stourbridge (next to the Glasshouse College). The flat is on the second floor (no lift) and has a bathroom with bath and shower and a fully equipped kitchen. If you are interested in renting one or more rooms for some or all of the time, please contact Sarah via slett@live.co.uk

Holiday Let: 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 07973 680959

SALES, OFFERS AND WANTED

WANTED: Children's books for asylum seekers learning / practising English at home, e.g. ABC books, simple children's story books, preferably with illustrations, simple adult books with pictures. Please leave with Maigread at the office. Thank you. Carrie Smith 833738.

Seeking an au pair to help with our 2 year old twins. Hackney, East London. Starting June or July 2019. We would love someone with a Steiner education if possible. We are a family of 4 (plus Betty the cat) living in Hackney in a 3-bedroom house. We are looking for someone who is dedicated to caring for children, who is enthusiastic, positive and aware. Our twins Otto and Alba love being in the open air exploring and climbing and playing with sand, and engaging in social play, singing and movement.

Hackney is a vibrant part of east London, where there are lots of interesting markets, art galleries, shops and cafes, and plenty of great choice when it comes to other activities such as yoga studios and an olympic sized lido. There are good transport links and the centre of London can be reached easily in 30-40 minutes.

We need help with getting out and about to playgroups, cooking meals for the whole family, tidying up after the children and doing laundry. We are mainly vegan but do occasionally eat fish. A keen interest in food and cooking is important.

We are looking for someone that can help create an environment for the children where they can develop confidence, love for play and imagination, appreciation of nature, and interest in art. We need someone to help for about 30 hours a week. We offer you your own room, all meals and £100 per week pocket money in return. We would like someone who can stay at least 6 months. Please be in touch with Molly (mum) on mollygreenwood@hotmail.com or +44 (0)7870 556 442. Thank you, Molly, Paul, Otto & Alba

No Waldorf School is an island: Boarding at Elmfield Rudolf Steiner School

As part of an international movement, we here at Elmfield strive to help our pupils remember their membership of the global community. How can we help them to remain open and outward looking, interested and concerned about what is happening in the world and welcoming to people from other countries and cultures? At Elmfield we have a long tradition of welcoming student from overseas, as well as other parts of the UK, going back to the 1950s. Through this generations of pupils have had the opportunity of getting to know students from another country and culture and of making new friendships, some of which have become long lasting. It has also enabled Elmfield to remain an active member of the International Waldorf Movement, a movement that encourages and supports students to explore other countries and cultures, learn new languages and make new connections. To make all this possible, many host families have welcomed students into their homes over the years, sometimes for just a few weeks and at other times for a whole term or longer. This year we have had applicants from Norway, Germany, France, Switzerland and Ukraine. We have already received applications for next year from Japan, Poland, Sweden and Germany. Would you be interested in welcoming one of them into your home?

Most pupils who come to Elmfield from abroad attend Waldorf schools in their own country and join us to experience life in a different country and improve their English. We also welcome pupils who have reached the top class of another UK Steiner school and wish to continue with Steiner education until they are 17 and pupils who live too far away from Elmfield to attend as day pupils and boarding is the only way they are able to attend a Waldorf school. Boarders are encouraged and supported to integrate fully into the life of the school and play a full part in all school and extra-curricular activities and for many it offers a first taste of independence in a safe and supportive environment. Our experience is that boarders and their host families enjoy their time together and boarders leave Elmfield with greater confidence, a taste of British culture and a rich variety of experiences to draw on in later life.

Here is a taste of what former boarders have said to us about their time at Elmfield:

“It’s nice that there are English lessons just for boarders – it helps a lot.”; “Modern topics – for example the environment and women’s rights – and current events are often themes for discussion – it is very relevant.”
“Assemblies are very interesting, often with outside careers speakers – real life.”; “If you like architecture and fantasy like Harry Potter style buildings – come here!”; “If you like to choose your artistic activities Elmfield is the place for you.”

To host one of our current applicants, all you need is a spare room and the capacity to care for an extra person in loco parentis. The school will support you through the application process, which includes the taking up of references and a DBS check, and you will also receive good remuneration as a host.

If you would like to support the long and fruitful tradition of boarding at Elmfield by becoming a host, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school office to arrange to speak to a member of the boarding committee and you may also like to look at the boarding policy (available on the school website) and the host family job description.

Last but not least...

*“Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.
The important thing is not to stop questioning.”*

Albert Einstein