ELM CLASS NEWS
TERM 1



Welcome back! We have been delighted to see your children back in school, full of news from their summer adventures and ready to embrace the new learning and challenges in the year ahead.

Year 5 is such an exciting stage—building independence, growing in confidence, and taking on new responsibilities.

We are all getting settled into our new classroom and have already made a start on many of our topics, which you can read about in this newsletter. Here's to a Fantastic Year Five!

Best wishes,
The Year 5 Team 🙂

THE YEAR 5 TEAM

Class Teacher:
Mr Yates

Class Support:
Mrs Denison and Miss Wellard

CONTACT US:

Our class email address is as follows:
elms@harcourt.kent.sch.uk
Please use this to get in touch. We will aim to check the inbox at least once a day. If your message is urgent, please contact the school office.

Imporant Information

PE DAYS

PE Days are **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**.
Please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school every day.
PE kits should include:

- A plain white t-shirt
- Black Tracksuit bottoms/shorts or leggings
- Trainers.

Long hair should be tied back and ALL jewellery removed for PE lessons.

CLASS REWARDS

The children have been motivated by our reward system of Class Dojos.
These will continue
We hope to be giving out many more rewards for this next term 🙂

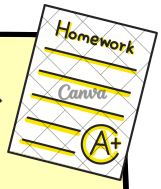
DRINKS AND SNACKS

Colder weather always seems to make us hungrier! Please remember that children are allowed to bring in a healthy snack to enjoy at morning break, which can help keep them focused through the morning lessons.





HOMEWORK



We are very grateful for the support you give at home. Homework will continue to be given out every week on a **Friday** and should be returned for marking by **Wednesday.**

If your child does not understand how to complete the homework activity, please remind them to ask one of us before the day it is due in.

Please also encourage your child to:

- Read at home every day, and to an adult several times a week.
- Use Times Table Rockstars (TTRS) or another method to practise their Times Tables
- Read through their Knowledge Organisers for History, Geography, RE and Science.

READING

Regular reading at home makes a huge difference to progress and confidence. After reading, try a quick discussion or activity to check understanding, such as:

- Asking your child to summarise what happened in a few sentences.
- Talking about a character's feelings or choices.
- Predicting what might happen next.
- Finding a new or interesting word and discussing its meaning.

Thank you for your continued support in helping to develop your child's love of reading!

LEARNING

English:
This term we will begin looking at descriptive writing, before moving into Shakespeare! Macbeth will be the focus of our English lessons for the rest of term 1. Through a mixed approach of drama, modern interpretations and Shakespeare's original text, we will explore this famous tale of plotting and scheming, developing our writing skills in character/setting descriptions and play scripts along the way..

Spelling:
We will continue using 'Spelling Shed' . Please login and use the app to practise spellings at home. We will send home a list of spellings to work on each Friday. The spelling test will take place on a Friday.

Maths:
This term's foci in maths will be: · place value to a million: Roman numerals, comparing numbers, ordering, rounding numbers to different degrees · addition and subtraction: written and mental methods, using the inverse, evaluating effectiveness of different methods, finding missing numbers, multi-step problems

Science:
Our science topic this term is the Earth and Space. Within this topic we will be: · Learning the names and order of the planets in our Solar System · Understanding the movement of Earth and how this causes night and day, and the seasons. · Understand the phases of the moon · Find out about solar and lunar eclipses

P.E.:
Our PE topics this term are gymnastics and multi-skills.

Religious Education:
Our key question is 'Why do some people believe that God exists?

History:
This term we will be learning about the Tudor dynasty, including: · Learning about how the Tudors came to power, including the Battle of Bosworth, · Finding out about Henry VIII's wives and his break with the Catholic Church · Finding out about the Elizabethan Golden Age and the reign of Elizabeth I

Geography:
Geography will be taught again in term 2.

French:
Our French lessons this term will focus on food vocabulary, as well as regular revising of previous topics and conversational French. - We are also writing to French penpals - the children have prepared their first letters which will be sent off to Ecole Sainte Therese in Dunkirk.

Design and Technology:
We will explore food and nutriotion and explore how a recipe can be improved.

Computing
We will learn about online safety and the SMART rules for how to stay safe online. We will also be learning about external devices. We will also take part in the hour of code as part of Computer Science Education Week.

PSHE
We will be using the Jigsaw scheme work focusing on 'My Year Ahead' . We will be thinking about how to: · Help others to feel welcome ·· Think about everyone's right to learn · Care about other people's feelings · Work well with others

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Thursday 3rd September 2026	Children back to school (Years 1-6)
Monday 7th September 2026	EYFS children in half days
Wednesday 9th September 2026	EYFS children in full time
Thursday 10th September 2026	Kent Test Year 6 children
Tuesday 15th September 2026 3.15-3.45pm	Meet the Teacher in classrooms
Monday 28th September 2026 9am	Phonics workshop to parents
Friday 9th October 2026	Wear something yellow for Young Minds
Friday 9th October 2026	Flu immunisations
Tuesday 13th October 2026	School Photographer
Friday 16th October 2026	Re-start a heart - bring a teddy to school
Friday 16th October 2026 2.30pm	Harvest Festival
Tuesday 20th October 2026 3.30-6pm	Parent Consultations
Thursday 22nd October 2026 3.30-6.30pm	Parent Consultations
Friday 23rd October 2026	Last Day of Term