

Dates for your Diary - more dates maybe added during the term so please keep checking your child's book bag and our class notice board.

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| Week beginning 8th January | Elmer We will be reading this charming story and starting our "Talk for Writing" topic on it by sequencing the story and learning the Elmer counting song. |
| 15th January | Elmer We will be continuing our work on this story by learning actions and retelling it in our own words. |
| 22nd January | Elmer's adventures We will be reading other stories about Elmer and exploring what makes us special and unique. |
| 29th January | Real Elephants We will be thinking about what real elephants need to stay happy and healthy. Our role play area will have been transformed into a Vet's surgery. |
| 5th February | Elmer Creations We will be designing our own Elmer friends and thinking about what makes them good friends. School breaks up for half term on Friday 9th February |
| More information on all events to follow. | |



Acorns Nursery Newsletter

Spring 1st half Term

Elmer



All Saints CE School and Nursery,
Bishop's Stortford

Happy New Year! We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your kind gifts last term. We appreciated them



greatly.

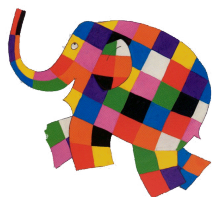
The children have returned this term full of enthusiasm and joy for learning and we hope they will enjoy our focus work this term. Many of the class love stories about animals and playing with them in our small world, so we have decided to expand this interest through focused work on 'Elmer'. Through this story we will be focusing on how unique and special we all are. If your child would like to bring in anything relating to the topic, we would love to see them.

Literacy

We will be focussing on Literacy skills this term—especially reading. We will be using the Elmer books with their simple stories to explore characters and their feelings. We will be looking at how stories are structured suggesting possible endings, as well as using clues in the text and illustrations to predict what will happen next. Our Tuesday book sharing and library session to which grown ups are invited to is continuing and we look forward to seeing as many grown ups as possible at 11.40am on Tuesdays.

We shall be continuing with our daily phonics sessions, practising our listening skills through games and activities. We will still have a weekly sound that we learn and ask children to bring in objects starting with that sound for our Friday 'show and tell' session.

We will be practising our listening and speaking skills with small group circle times and providing lots of discussion stimulus with science investigations and small world play linked to Elmer.



Maths

Our maths focus this term is counting and number recognition up to 10. We will also be looking at mathematical terms such as more/less and most/least.

We will be exploring shape and using positional language to describe and make repeating patterns.

The wider curriculum

We will continue to get changed for of our PE sessions on a Tuesday this term. Please can you ensure your child's PE kit is in school (T-shirt, shorts, plimsolls). We will be focusing on large movement and using our bodies safely including being able to avoid obstacles and stopping carefully. Now we are able to recognise our names, we will have lots of opportunities to practise writing our names and holding our pencils to draw and copy effectively.

During our creative activities we will be inspired by Elmer and elephants and we will be making collage and paintings using different materials, textures and colours. We will listen to elephant inspired music and use the instruments to make our own compositions

Each Thursday we will focus on 'Understanding the World' and changes. We will be cooking and trying different foods; exploring the natural world with investigations in the classroom and outside and looking at animals that live in an environment different from our own. Unfortunately the resources and ingredients for these activities add up

so we do ask for a **voluntary contribution of £3 a half term.**



We hope you and your child have a great half term with us. Please feel free to come and speak to us about any questions you have.

Mrs McFarlane and Mrs Rogers

