

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

It has been another fantastic week at Elizabeth Selby, and it has been wonderful to see our pupils continuing to grow in confidence, enthusiasm and independence as the autumn term progresses. There is a real buzz around the school, with pupils engaging positively in their learning and making the most of the many opportunities available to them. Thank you to our wonderful staff for their continued hard work and dedication, and to our families for your ongoing support.

With just **three weeks to go until half term**, we are looking forward to another busy and exciting few weeks of learning, discovery and achievement. Let's continue to work together to make every day count and ensure our pupils have a happy and successful start to the year. Wishing everyone a wonderful week ahead.

Shahi Ahmed – Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

The safety and wellbeing of our pupils is our top priority. If you ever have a concern about a child, please know who to contact:

Headteacher: Shahi Ahmed

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Joe Howard

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL): Fabi  n Reid

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL): Karen Breen

Our team is here to listen and take any concerns seriously. You can contact us through the school office or via email at any time. Thank you for helping us keep our school a safe and supportive place for all children.



SCHOOL TIMES

School Day Timings:

Start of Day: 8:55 AM

End of Day: 3:25 PM

For those who need extended care, we offer:

Breakfast Club: 8:00 AM – 8:55 AM

After-School Club: 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Both clubs provide a safe and engaging environment for children before and after school hours. We look forward to a term filled with exciting learning experiences and community events. If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact us.



PUNCTUALITY MATTERS

Arriving at school on time each day helps children settle quickly, feel prepared, and make the most of their learning. Even being just a few minutes late can mean missing important instructions and starting the day feeling rushed. Thank you for helping your child develop this important life skill by arriving promptly each morning.

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters!

Did you know... ?

In a school year, if your child is late every day by...	Your child would have lost approximately...	Your child would have missed approximately...
5 minutes	3.5 days of school	20 lessons
10 minutes	7 days of school	41 lessons
15 minutes	10 days of school	55 lessons
20 minutes	14.5 days of school	82 lessons
30 minutes	22 days of school	123 lessons

Please encourage punctuality to maintain attendance.



ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance helps children learn well, build friendships and feel confident. At our school, we take a positive, supportive approach by working closely with families, keeping communication open, and helping with any barriers such as routines, confidence, anxiety or practical challenges. We want every child to feel happy, safe and motivated to come to school, and we celebrate both good attendance and individual improvement.

The diagram shows why attending regularly matters. At 100% attendance, children get the best chance to succeed. At 98% attendance is still very good, and 96% is considered good—though this already means about 7 days of learning missed in a year.

As attendance drops further, days lost increase quickly. For example, at 80% attendance a child may miss around 40 days—eight full weeks of learning, friendships and opportunities. This can make it harder to keep up, stay confident and feel connected. The diagram reminds us that every day counts.



This week's attendance: 91.2%

Week 1 07/09	Week 2 14/09	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
95.3%	92.9%	92.4%	91.2%			

How you support this weeks school attendance. Thank you!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

More information about the dates below can be found on the school Jotter

Dates	Event
06/10	Reception to Year 2 Flu Vaccination
08/10	Year 2 Parent Reading Workshop
12/10	Black History Week
19/10	School Photo Day
03/11	Halloween Disco
05/11	Bonfire Night - Sparklers
10/11	Reception to Year 2 Flu Vaccinations

Dates	Event
08/10	Reception – Stay and Play Workshop
09/10	Harvest Assembly
16/10	Black History Assembly
26/10	Half Term (26/10 – 30/10)
04/11	Reception Height & Weight Screening
06/11	Diwali Arts & Craft Day
11/11	Y2 Trip to Bethnal Green - Remembrance Day

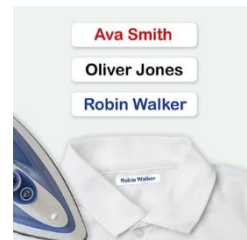
PARKING

We kindly ask all parents and carers to think carefully about where they park when dropping off or collecting children. Safe and considerate parking helps keep our pupils, families, and local community safe. Please avoid double parking, or parking on yellow lines. Even a few extra minutes walking from a safe spot can make a big difference to everyone's safety. Thank you for helping us make school drop-off and pick-up safe for all!



REMINDERS

Clothing Reminder - Please ensure that: Children come dressed in clothing suitable for the day's weather. A set of spare clothes is kept on their peg in case of accidents or changes needed.



ROAD SAFETY TALKS

As part of our ongoing work on pupil safety, we will be focusing on road safety talks in school over the coming weeks. These sessions will help children understand how to stay safe when walking, cycling, scooting, and travelling in and around roads. We would really appreciate your support in continuing these important conversations at home. Talking regularly with your child about road safety helps reinforce key messages such as:

- Stopping, looking, and listening before crossing roads
- Using safe places to cross, such as crossings and traffic lights
- Avoiding distractions like mobile phones or headphones near roads
- Being aware of traffic, parked cars, and visibility
- Always wearing seat belts and using appropriate safety equipment when cycling or scooting



These simple conversations can make a big difference in helping children build confidence and develop lifelong safe habits when travelling independently. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our pupils safe.

ACTIVE TRAVEL

Promoting Active Travel to School – Walking, Cycling and Scooting

We are continuing to encourage pupils and families to choose active ways to travel to school, such as walking, cycling, or scooting, wherever it is safe and practical to do so. Active travel is a great way to start the school day. It helps children arrive feeling more awake and ready to learn, while also supporting physical health, wellbeing, and independence. It also reduces traffic and congestion around the school, making journeys safer and more pleasant for everyone.

We encourage families to consider:

- Walking to school where possible, even part of the way
- Cycling safely with appropriate safety equipment, including helmets
- Scooting as a fun and active alternative for shorter journeys

These small changes can have a big impact, helping children develop healthy habits that can last a lifetime. Thank you for your continued support in promoting safe, active, and sustainable travel to school.



CLASS UPDATE

Reception News - Birch:

Birch Class has had another exciting and busy week full of learning, creativity, and exploration. The children have been thoroughly enjoying our Superheroes topic and have been particularly excited to explore the adventures of Supertato. Through the story, we have been talking about different fruits and vegetables and learning lots of wonderful new vocabulary. The children have enjoyed sharing their ideas, describing what they can see, and developing their confidence when speaking and listening.



In Maths, we have been learning to compare amounts, using mathematical language such as more, fewer and the same. The children have enjoyed using practical resources to investigate different quantities and explain what they notice. Our Superheroes theme has also inspired lots of imaginative play and creative activities. It has been wonderful to see the children using their imaginations, developing their language, and working together as they take on different superhero roles. Birch Class have continued to show great curiosity and enthusiasm for their learning throughout the week.



NUT FREE SCHOOL

Keeping Everyone Safe

A reminder to all parents and carers that Elizabeth Selby is a nut-free school. Please do not send children into school with nuts or any food containing nuts, including in packed lunches, snacks or treats.

We have children in school with severe nut allergies, and exposure to nuts can cause **anaphylaxis – a rapid and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction**. Even a very small amount can pose a serious risk.



SAFEGUARDING

Childline – Helping Children Understand Body Safety

As part of our commitment to safeguarding, we teach children that their body belongs to them and that they have the right to feel safe.

Children learn about personal boundaries, that they can say 'no' to unwanted touch, and the importance of using the correct names for parts of their body.

Children often find it easier to understand personal safety when we move away from talking about 'good people' and 'bad people'. Instead, it can be helpful to talk about situations that feel:

Safe – when they feel comfortable, happy and secure.

Unsafe – when they feel frightened, worried or in danger.

Confusing – when something does not feel quite right but they are not sure why.

These conversations are not intended to make children fearful. They help children develop confidence, self-respect, healthy boundaries and the confidence to speak up and seek help when they need it.



My Body My Rules

Elizabeth Selby Infant School

Speak up!

I have the right to feel safe.

We are a listening school. We are a telling school.

Your voice matters!

No!

My body belongs to me.

I can say no to unwanted touch.

I can talk to a trusted adult.

How does it feel?

Safe

I feel happy and comfortable.

Unsafe

I feel frightened or worried.

Confusing

It doesn't feel right, but I'm not sure why.

It's always okay to talk.

Growing • Learning • Achieving

with Dedication and Enthusiasm

ATTENDANCE

Class	Percentage
Seedling	82%
Acorn 1	63%
Acorn 2	91%
Cedar	96%
Birch	93%
Maple	98%
Willow	97%
Sycamore	93%
Oak	95%

STAR OF THE WEEK

Class	Behaviour Award	Achievement Award
Acorn 1	Amir	Yaseer
Acorn 2	Zara	Adam
Cedar	Saara	Amani
Birch	Ameera	Izaan
Maple	Xylah	Umar
Willow	Idreese	Tanisha
Sycamore	Alisa	Denzel
Oak	Ayaana	Yahya
Chestnut	Maya	Alyaan

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Every day in school matters. Good attendance and punctuality help children to make strong academic progress, develop positive routines and friendships. Even occasional absences or regularly arriving late can mean children miss important learning and find it harder to keep up with their peers.

At Elizabeth Selby, we love to celebrate good attendance! Through our ATTENDANCE MATTERS class challenge, every day that the whole class achieves 100% attendance, they tick off a letter on their poster. Once all 17 letters have been completed, the whole class earns a non-uniform day!

We also celebrate class attendance each week in our newsletter and recognise children who achieve 100% attendance or above at our end-of-term assemblies with certificates and prizes.

A reminder that holidays during term time will not be authorised. Where a child is taken out of school for an unauthorised holiday, the Local Authority may issue a penalty notice (fine) to each parent, for each child.



TOY LIBRARY

The Toy Library has now moved to **Thursdays**. Everyone is welcome to attend, including families whose children do not attend the school. Come along, browse the toys and enjoy some time together. We look forward to seeing you.



COFFEE AFTERNOON

Our Coffee Morning for school families has now changed to a Coffee Afternoon and will take place on Tuesday afternoons at 2:45pm, just before you pick up your children. Tea, coffee, croissants and fruit will be available. You are welcome to bring your child along with you. **A time for you to socialise with your friends before pick up!**



LUNCH TIME

What Happens at Lunchtime?

Have you ever wondered what lunch looks like behind the scenes at school?

Our school lunches offer pupils a variety of tasty and nutritious choices each day. For example, last Friday's menu included fish and chips, alongside a fresh salad option for children who fancied something lighter.

We also love giving our pupils opportunities to take responsibility at lunchtime. Our Year 2 pupils help to hand out the lunch trays and salad, developing their independence, confidence and sense of responsibility while helping their younger peers.

It's wonderful to see our children taking an active role in making lunchtime a positive experience for everyone.

Want to know what's on the menu?

Our school lunch menu can be found on the school website, so you can see what's being served each day and chat with your child about their lunch choices. [View the school lunch menu](#)

So, the next time your child tells you, "I had school dinner today!", you'll know there's a little more happening behind the scenes!



NEW ASC

More Spaces Now Available!

We are delighted to let parents and carers know that **more spaces are now available** for our **Wednesday Family After-School Club!**

Following the success of our first sessions, we would love to welcome even more children and their families to join us. The club is a wonderful opportunity for children to enjoy learning, creativity and fun alongside a special member of their family. There will be lots of opportunities to get involved, spend quality time together and enjoy some fun activities. We would love to see more of our families taking part!

Spaces are limited, so please speak to the office about booking your place if you would like to join us.



Website: www.elizabethselby.school

Telephone: 0207 739 6187



Email: admin@elizabethselby.towerhamlets.sch.uk
Head Teacher: Shahi Ahmed