



# Elmsett C.of E. Primary School

## *In the light of Jesus, we learn to shine*



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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach one of the most exciting times of the year, I wanted to write to say thank you for all the support you give our lovely school and our wonderful children. Small schools work best when they work as a team with parents and carers and it has been wonderful to see so many of you in school this week working with your children at our Christmas Café events. I would also like to say thank you to the many parents and carers who have helped with transporting pupils to and from sporting events, as this means we can offer our pupils wider experiences. Here are some of the activities we have undertaken so far this year:

### Autumn Term 2025

Messy Church assemblies Open the Book visits from St Peters and the Methodist Church Weekly assemblies with Vicar Geoffrey Harvest Festival at St Peter's Church FIND Charity Donations Mac Millan Coffee Morning Christmas Jumper DMAT song video Kingfishers 'Energy from Waste' visit to Gt. Blakenham Robins Colchester Castle Trip Owls Residential Trip to Norfolk Lakes Donations to FIND food charity NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Assemblies Premiere PE enrichment: Archery, Messy Church and Vicar Geoffrey Christingle making, U9s multi-sports at Hadleigh, U9s Dodgeball, Christmas cooking, Parent cafés, Robins nativity performance, Year 6 visit to St. Matthews School,

FOES have always supported these events with contributions towards the costs. They have also arranged events such as the, S'mores evening, secret rooms for children and the amazing Music on the Meadow last year. After 2 very successful years as Chair and Treasurer, Alice and Felicity are stepping down. We would like to thank them, committee members and everyone who supported the committee for all for their hard work and for the amazing events they organised in order to fund raise for our school. In the new year we will send details of a meeting where parents and carers, who may wish to take on these roles and be part of the committee, can come and find out more about FOES. Our hope is that we see this worthwhile group continue. Should you be able to offer your support, please speak to Mrs Turner at the school office. Offers of help can be as large or small as you are able to make.

During the past term we have had visits from other DMAT headteachers as part of our school improvement programme and all have been impressed by the teaching and learning taking place at Elmsett. I have also worked with other DMAT schools to support their school development. Being part of the DMAT is proving extremely beneficial as we are able to access expert advice and support which led, for example, to our fencing being fully funded. The fencing has now been completed.

I would also like to say a big thank you to our governors and welcome our new governor Hannah McCann who has already begun working with the team. Again, we are very lucky to have such a supportive governing body working to continuously improve our school.

Finally, may I wish you all a very merry Christmas, a happy New Year and a peaceful break over the next few weeks before we welcome pupils back on Tue 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 for the start of the Spring Term and our trip to the Panto on 7<sup>th</sup> January.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L Hilton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

Miss Leigh Hilton

Headteacher

On behalf of Elmsett Church of England Primary School