

EWHURST CE INFANT SCHOOL

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Dear Parents

29th January 2021

Newsletter 2

I hope you all had a chance to enjoy the wonderful snow last Sunday either in your garden or as you took exercise. My dog Bella loved it, particularly catching snowballs! It was so joyous to appreciate how wonderful the natural world is and it was certainly uplifting for this lockdown and time or year! I have found it helpful to do something I always do each January and that is to make marmalade; I've made around 30lbs over the last three weekends. I'm sure you can all identify with the need for the past at this time. I am only too aware that everyone is finding this lockdown really hard and there are so many layers of difficulty that seem to just keep being added too. We have families and members of staff in our school community who are unwell or have relatives who are unwell, anxious, with elderly family members who are waiting for the vaccine, families who worried about juggling home schooling and work. We now know that home schooling will continue for at least until 8th March.

However, we are managing to continue to provide all our children with a creative curriculum as we would if everyone were at school, but it is becoming increasingly challenging primarily for staff reasons. In this last week two members of the KS1 bubble are not able to be in work due to coronavirus and self-isolation. We really do have a skeleton staff who are so committed in delivering live sessions to those at home and in school and continue to keep the very rigorous hygiene preventative measures in place. Any further reduction to staffing levels will mean the closure of the school; I do suggest that every family in school has contingency plans in place should this be the case.

Science Week 2021

Science week is always a time of inspiration for the children, staff and parents. At times, a focus on a specific subject leads to further creativity, exploration, invention and higher levels of inquiry. Children question, think critically, analyse and pose "big" questions. Children in school and at home have certainly had the opportunity to flourish this week and below are a few images of some of the activities. More will be posted on the school website in due course.





A few quotes from children during Science week

Charlotte loved the Algorithm live lesson and wanted to go and code straight away, she made her own cardboard box robot costume, not quite as good as AL but it did the job and we had a go at coding. We even got her little sister involved!

'I enjoyed saying go,go,go' said Bonnie.

Axel said 'The robot had to debug'.

Elsa said 'I liked doing the programming writing down the instructions'. Sebastien liked it when he was the robot.

Leonie commented 'You can use a robot to get the shopping for you'!

Alfie said 'Don't get plastic bags because it might be put in the bin and an animal might get it'.

Axel said 'Don't buy eggs in a plastic container get the cardboard ones because we can recycle them.'

Leonie also mentioned that 'you can use rubbish to reuse in lots of different things'

In Apple class when thinking about helping to improve our environments Rosie commented 'We need to try to use less gas and our cars less'. Dougie said 'We have to turn off the tap so we don't waste water' and Arabella noted 'There is a blue bin for bottles' and Siena commented 'We have too much plastic'.

Reading Books and a new exercise book: MONDAY 1st FEBRUARY

If you wish, as part of your daily exercise, you have the opportunity to collect from the school office a new set of reading books and a new exercise book to support learning at home. There is no obligation to take up this offer.

For you to collect reading books you MUST return all books from home in their plastic wallets: You are unable to collect a new pack unless you return your existing set(s)

Apple class: You will receive an email from Mrs Macey about book collection as the class will be in two groups.

Holly class: Collection on MONDAY 1st FEBRUARY at 2.00pm- 2.30pm

Cherry class: Collection on MONDAY 1st FEBRUARY at 1.00pm- 1.45pm

The next return & collection date will be on MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY

Learning at Home Questionnaire

We know you are doing a fantastic job in supporting the learning at home, but we are also mindful that with at least another four weeks it is a further challenge. So, at this time, we'd like to undertake a survey which you find by following this link <http://ewhurst-surveys.schooljotter2.com/surveys/page/CMFGSD> I would be grateful if you could complete the home learning questionnaire as we are keen to have feedback and find ways to help you further by Friday 5th February.

Cranleigh Library

Cranleigh Library have asked us to let you know they are still open and that it is free to join, you can do this online. As a member you can reserve books from their online catalogue and have them delivered via 'Click and Collect' to your nearest library.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/your-library/join-your-library>

They have an App for your smart phone, and many titles are available as eBooks or audio books.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/borrow-or-renew/library-mobile-apps>

You can also have use of a computer for an hour a day with printing facilities. Cranleigh also has a scanner.

Ewhurst School Celebrates its 175th Anniversary

Education has been provided in Ewhurst through close links with the parish church since the early 18th century when a charity school was set up during the ministry of William Whitfield, Rector of Ewhurst from 1693-1715. In 1822 the school became a national school. From 1833 government grants were available to schools sponsored by The National Society towards the cost of school buildings and from 1841 applicants were required to adopt a trust deed, stating the permanent dedication of the site to the purposes of education and allowing the right of government inspection. Revd Cooper gave Glebe land for the building of a new school and applied for a grant from the National Society in June 1845. After a delay due to the sudden death of Revd Cooper, The Trust Deed was signed on 12th February 1846. The original school is in daily use to this day and is considered to be one of the oldest in Surrey still to be in use as a school.

The current children will be celebrating this event in the summer term. Cherry class, next half term as part of their topic- Now & Then will have a focus on the school and as we are currently unable to invite past pupils into our school due to coronavirus we would love to receive video or audio clips of memories of past pupils. The swimming pool is still in use after nearly 60 years! The children in school will also be sharing current experiences of school during lockdown which will become part of the social history of Ewhurst School- please take part by emailing us on the following address info@ewhurst.surrey.sch.uk We cannot wait to hear from past pupils. An article in News & Views will be circulated shortly.

Parents Consultation Evenings – 1st, 2nd and 3rd March

These will be delivered via Microsoft Teams and we will be sending out information nearer the time for you to select your preferred time slot.

Class weekly newsheets

Don't forget to read these as they contain extremely useful information on learning at home and in school. There are often reminders about what your child may need in the forthcoming week.

RSPB Garden Bird watch this weekend

Why don't you join in? I am sure you will all enjoy it. [Just follow this link](#)

Pause for Thought

I think we all need to keep resilient and hopeful, yet recognise we can find things tough whatever our personal situation. This week I have been reminded of the words from 'We're Going on a bear hunt' by Michael Rosen. 'You can't go over it, you can't go under it, oh no! you've got to go through it!' In time we will get through this pandemic. I've included Michael Rosen on YouTube acting his own story for the children to enjoy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0gyI6ykDwds>

Keep safe and have an enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes



Jane Dyer
Headteacher

Awards

22.1.2021 – Reading

Star of the Week

Apple

William Ca

Holly

Charlie

Cherry

Alfie

Headteacher's Award

Flora

Chloe

James

Charlie

Lilian

Hania

Alexander