



# Essendon

## C of E Primary School

Encouraging everyone's light to shine

[www.essendon.herts.sch.uk](http://www.essendon.herts.sch.uk)

01707 261209

[admin@essendon.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@essendon.herts.sch.uk)

Newsletter: 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### Dear Essendon families,

As you know, we have had to close our keyworker and vulnerable pupil bubble this week. All here at Essendon wish the affected individual well in their recovery. While I'm sure this closure will have been frustrating for many of you, it underlines that the virus is present in our community, and I continue to stress the importance of taking all precautions to reduce the risk to our pupils and staff, including keeping your children at home if possible.

### No school opening before 8<sup>th</sup> March

Many of you will be aware from reports in the media that the government have announced that schools will remain closed until 8<sup>th</sup> March at the earliest. We will keep you informed as the situation develops.

### RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch

This weekend is the RSPB's annual "Big Garden Birdwatch", used by scientists to track our national bird population. Pupils can get involved by following this link to the RSPB website:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>

### 5 steps to wellbeing

Over the last two weeks, Ms Canham has been using her collective worship to promote the "5 Steps to Wellbeing" approach for all our pupils. More information is available at [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

## WINNING WAYS TO WELLBEING



INTRODUCE THESE FIVE SIMPLE STRATEGIES INTO YOUR LIFE AND YOU WILL FEEL THE BENEFITS.

### Big Energy Saving Week

Congratulations to those who took part in the Big Energy Saving Challenge last week. I hope the children continue to follow the good habits they have developed!

### Our focus value this term is...



### Governor view

In a week where the school has been closed again due to the continuing pressures of the pandemic, everyone missed the possible 'snow day' closure on Monday as we were all at home anyway. Hopefully the snow meant that you were all able to enjoy some time outside having fun.

On 2nd February, it will be the Feast of Candlemas, which is an ancient festival, celebrating the time when Jesus was taken to the temple by his parents as they gave thanks for his birth. Long ago, people also brought candles to be blessed, remembering Jesus as the light of the world. It was a time to celebrate that Winter was nearly over and that Spring was on the way. In some countries they celebrate with pancakes as they are golden and round like the sun. For some, Christmas decorations stay up until 2nd February marking 40 days since Christmas; except for the Queen, who will be taking hers down on 6th February, remembering her Father who died on that day 69 years ago.

As the school reopens next week, we will see a return for key worker children, and it will hopefully not be too long before we can open the doors to all our school family again. Maybe take some time on Tuesday to light a candle giving thanks for our school community as we look forward with hope to the coming of Spring after what has seemed like a very long Winter and a difficult time for us all.

Katie Bedi

**Now read on to see the brilliant work our pupils have been posting online this week!**

**With love and best wishes, Mr Potter**



## Photos from our learning this week!

### Pantherswood



### Homewood







## Warrenwood






## Harefield





## We must keep on protecting each other.



**HANDS****FACE****SPACE**

**STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES**

**Please help to keep our school Covid secure!**

Always wear a mask on the school grounds.

Enter through the pedestrian gate and leave via the car gates.

Only enter the school building if absolutely essential.

Request on-site provision for your child only if no other option is available.

### Whole class engagement online this week...

Whole School – 4 stars out of 5  
Pantherswood – 3 stars out of 5  
Homewood – 4 stars out of 5  
Warrenwood – 5 stars out of 5  
Harefield – 4 stars out of 5

### Term dates 2020-2021

#### Autumn Term

Weds 2nd Sep: Inset Day  
Thurs 3 Sep: Term Begins  
Mon 26-Fri 30 Oct: Half Term  
Fri 18 Dec: End of Term

#### Spring Term

Mon 4th Jan: Inset Day  
Tues 5 Jan: Term Begins  
Mon 15-Fri 19 Feb: Half Term  
Fri 26 Mar: End of Term

#### Summer Term

Mon 12 Apr: Inset Day  
Tues 13 Apr: Term Begins  
Mon 31 May-Fri 4 Jun: Half Term  
Mon 7 Jun: Inset Day  
Tues 20 Jul: End of Term  
Weds 21: Jul Inset Day  
Thurs 22 Jul: Occasional Day

### Congratulations to this week's star learners!

#### Pantherswood:

Jenson and James

#### Homewood:

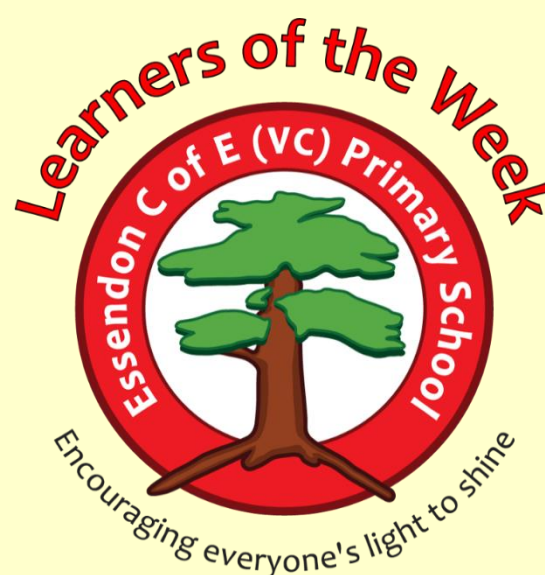
Liam and Sammy

#### Warrenwood:

Evie and Albie D

#### Harefield:

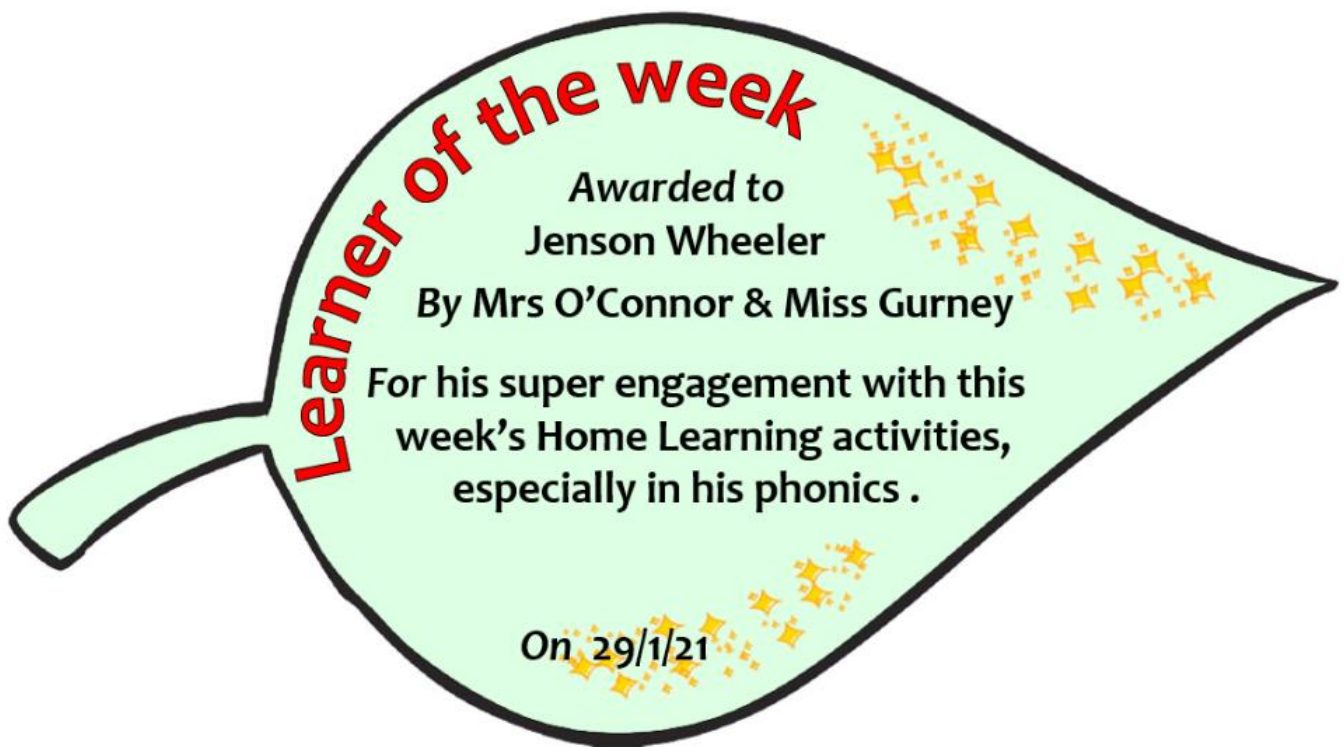
Conor and Daniel



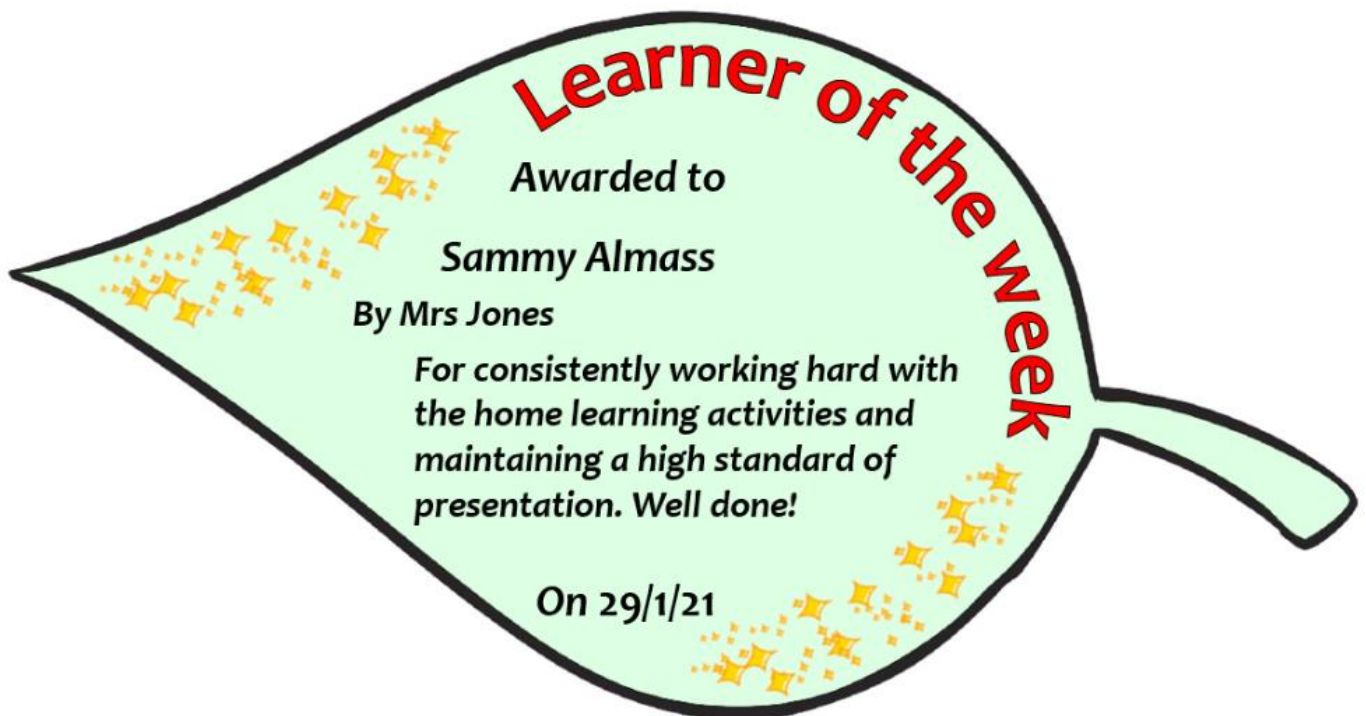
Well done to you all! Your cut-out-and-keep Learner of the Week leaves are below.



**Pantherswood**



## Homewood



**Warrenwood**

**Learner of the Week**  
Awarded to:  
**Evie**  
By: Mr Woodhouse  
For creating a fantastic video to  
demonstrate her knowledge of Skara  
Brae. Amazing effort!

On 29/1/2021

**Learner of the Week**  
Awarded to:  
**Albie D**  
By: Ms Canham  
For keeping up an excellent  
engagement with online learning at  
home. Well done!

On 29/1/2021



**Harefield**

