



Essendon

C of E Primary School

Encouraging everyone's light to shine

www.essendon.herts.sch.uk

01707 261209

admin@essendon.herts.sch.uk

Newsletter 16th April 2021

Dear Essendon families,

Welcome back to school for the first half of the summer term! It has been lovely to see the pupils returning this week. They have been settled, focused and ready to learn, and it has been a joy to see how seriously they are taking their learning and how hard they have been working.

Parents' evening next week

Don't forget, parents' evenings are due to be held by phone call on Monday and Wednesday next week. If you haven't yet signed up for a slot, there is still time to do so, so please contact the school office.

Parent forum

We would like to hold a parent forum meeting on Friday 30th April at 2.00pm. Parent forum meetings provide parents with the chance to give input and feedback about the running of the school. The main agenda items will be to discuss our proposed new Home Learning Policy and Relationships, Health and Sex Education Policy, but there will also be the chance for parents to bring up their own items for discussion. This meeting is planned to take place online via Microsoft Teams. If you would like to participate, please email the school office, as places are limited.

St George's Day church service

Next Thursday, we will be holding our St George's day church service, which will once again take the form of a video. As with previous services, the video will be made available for you to watch via our facebook page, and we hope you enjoy it!

Our focus value this term is...



Dates for your diary

Mon 19 Apr – Parents' evening part 1
Wed 21 Apr – Parents' evening part 2
Thu 22 Apr – St George's Day church service
W/B Mon 26 Apr – British Values Week
Tue 27 Apr – Music enrichment day
Mon 3 May – Bank Holiday
Thu 13 May – Ascension Day church service
Fri 14 May – Bags to School collection
W/B Mon 17 May – Local history awareness week & walk to school week
Thu 20 May – Outdoor learning day
W/B Mon 24 May – Harefield activity week
W/B Mon 7 Jun – Phonics screening check week
Mon 7 Jun – INSET day
W/B Mon 5 Jul – Whole school sports and activity week
Tue 6 Jul – Sports Day
Fri 9 Jul – School reports go home
Tue 13 Jul – Reserve Sports Day
Thu 16 Jul – Leaver's church service
Tue 20 Jul – School leaver's celebration picnic
Tue 20 Jul – Break up at 1.15pm
Wed 21 Jul – INSET
Thu 22 Jul – Occasional day

Have a great weekend!

With love and Best Wishes, Mr Potter

Covid Rules

It has been a great relief to many to see the rules around Covid gradually relaxing, as we have been allowed to see friends and go shopping since Monday 12th April. Please remember, though, that the rules for school and self-isolation have not changed. If your child, or anyone else in your household, experiences any of the three main symptoms of **persistent cough, temperature of 37.8 degrees celsius or higher, or loss of taste or smell** you should **begin self-isolation** and **book a Covid test**. Our classes remain in separate bubble groups, and bubble closures are still a possibility if infection finds its way into the school. Thank you for your co-operation.

Governor quote

I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break and welcome back to school. Although the weather was very changeable, I did manage to see many of you out and about in the village over holiday period. Some of you came to the activities we held in St Mary's churchyard. Despite it being a very cold Good Friday morning, the children arrived and in the space of a couple of hours, using sand, moss, pebbles and jars crammed full of flowers, created a beautiful Easter garden by the South Porch. The Christmas tree that had been put up in church to celebrate the birth of Jesus had now been turned into a cross to remind us of his death. As well as creating the Easter garden, the children made crosses to decorate the porch. We listened to the story of Good Friday and how it was in the Garden of Gethsemane that Jesus went to pray after the Last Supper and where he was betrayed by Judas and arrested. We reminded ourselves that this was just Part One of the Easter story and when we came back on Sunday we would hear that there was a happy ending!

The weather was slightly warmer on the Sunday morning and we listened to the second part of the story and saw that the stone in front of the tomb had been rolled away and the tomb was empty. We added daffodils to the cross to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. The children then had great fun hunting for Easter eggs in the churchyard. Some of the congregation even got offered one as they came out of the church service!

'Going on a Bear Hunt' also proved to be a popular activity for many families in and around the village. Fourteen knitted bears had been hidden in the Cricket field and the surrounding woods. This was certainly something that all members of the family could enjoy and thanks to 'Nanny Dawn' for organising it.

We are now looking forward to an exciting and busy Summer Term.

Best wishes, Pauline Alleyne

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
Mon 19 Apr: Parents' Evening
(1st half – early evening)
Weds 21 Apr: Parents' Evening
(2nd half – later evening)
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:

TH and JW

Homewood:

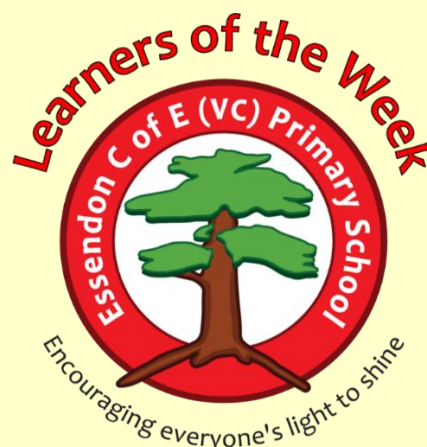
HM and PP

Warrenwood:

SK and ET

Harefield:

HD and HC



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