



Essendon

C of E Primary School

Encouraging everyone's light to shine

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Newsletter: 6th January 2021

Dear Essendon families ...

Welcome back to (home)school for the first half term of 2021! I hope you are all well and enjoyed a peaceful Christmas and a happy new year. Here is all the news from our first week...

Thank you!

I'd like to begin by repeating what I wrote in my letter on Wednesday, a huge thank you to all the parents for being so supportive of our measures at this tricky time. The pupils' engagement in online learning has been fantastic, and demand for key worker places has stabilised, all thanks to the backing and efforts of you, our brilliant families. On behalf of all here at Essendon, thank you!

Remote learning course for parents

Hertfordshire Adult and Family Learning Service (www.hertfordshire.go.uk/hafsl) is running a 5-week online course for parents offering support and ideas for home-schooling for just £15. For details and to apply, see the flyer further down this newsletter.

CBBC educational programming

From Monday 18th January, the BBC has announced they will be airing three hours a day of educational programmes for ages 7+, including interactive lessons, on the CBBC channel that you may wish to watch with your child to support their learning.

Other educational support and resources for home learning

While your child's teachers will be providing all the lessons they need to keep up with our curriculum, you may be looking for additional resources beyond this. If so, the following websites all offer a huge array of resources covering a wide range of topics for pupils of all ages:

<https://www.parentkind.org.uk/Parents/Free-learning-resources-for-children>

<https://www.thenational.academy/>

<https://www.brainpop.com/>

<https://www.tynker.com/>

<https://www.creativebug.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/watchfreeschool/playlist>

Our focus value this term is...



Contacting the office

During lockdown, please contact the School Office by email rather than phone, as your messages will be dealt with more quickly this way. Thanks.

Support for internet access

Don't forget, the school can apply on your behalf for reduced-cost data sims and free 4G routers to help if your child is struggling to access the internet. Please read the guidance here <https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/internet-access> and contact the school office if you would like us to make an application on your behalf. We also have a small number of devices remaining for loan to any families who don't have enough internet enabled devices at home. Also, don't forget that an internet enabled game console such as a PlayStation or Xbox can be used to access the Seesaw learning platform through its web browser.

Mental Health and Well-being

Lockdown can be a lonely and unpleasant experience, and many people may find themselves struggling with anxiety and low mood. If you or your child are struggling, you don't have to struggle alone. Help is available from the charities Mind (<https://hertsmindnetwork.org>) and Young Minds (<https://youngminds.org.uk/>) and from the NHS wellbeing service

<https://www.hpft.nhs.uk/services/community-services/wellbeing-service/>

Now take a look further down the newsletter to see some of the brilliant work that pupils have been posting online this week!

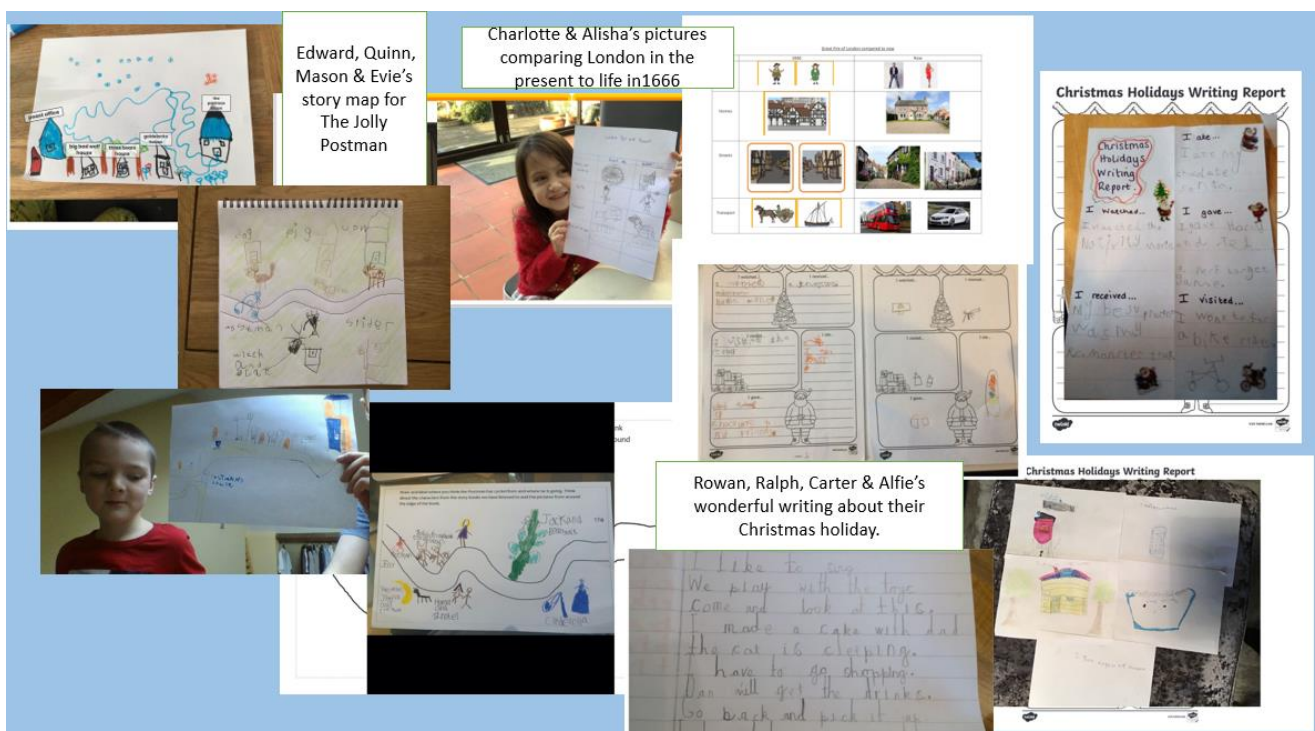
With love and best wishes, Mr Potter

Photos from our learning this week!

Pantherswood



Homewood



Governor quote

Once again the beginning of this term was not the start we expected for 2021!

I appreciate that for many parents, the closure of the school will make life even more difficult in these extraordinarily challenging times. We are saddened and frustrated at this turn of events, but understand the necessity for this decision and adapting to the ever changing rules.

I know that Mr Potter and his staff have been encouraged to receive so many messages of support from parents and that the use of the key worker provision has only been used when absolutely necessary.

I wanted to thank those members of staff who are still coming into the school and also those teachers switching to online learning at such short notice. The children have yet again shown their resilience by re-embracing home learning and teachers have been inspired by the quality of work being returned.

Thank you for continuing to work with the school to make it as safe as can be and I am sure that we will see some sort of normality sometime soon!

Take care and keep safe

Pauline Alleyne, Chair of Governors

Whole class engagement online this week...

Whole School -	
Pantherswood -	
Homewood -	
Warrenwood -	
Harefield -	

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:

Lenny and James

Homewood:

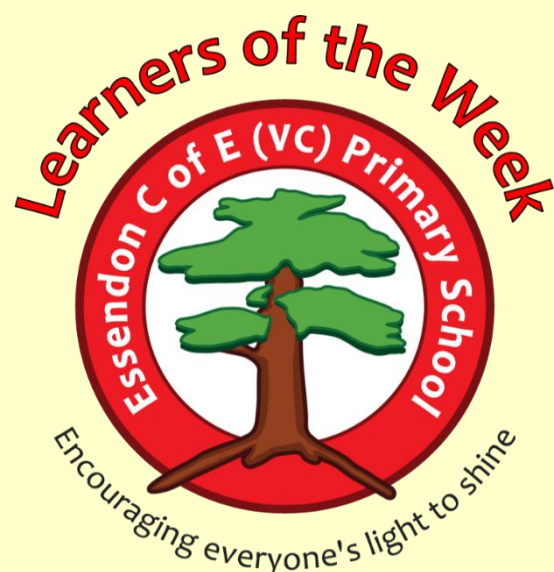
Tegan and Harry

Warrenwood:

Aleks and the whole class

Harefield:

Albert and Annalise



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

FAMILY LEARNING

FAMILY MATHS FOR KS1

THURSDAY
14TH
JANUARY
10AM -12PM

5 WEEK COURSE
Online in realtime

Only £15



Ideas and activities for supporting your child with a range of maths topics such as numbers, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions and shapes.

Learn how to include maths learning in every day life.
Each session will include fun practical learning which you can complete with your child



01992 556194

WWW.HERTFORDSHIRE.GOV.UK/HAFLS



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FAMILY LEARNING

FAMILY ENGLISH FOR KS1

FRIDAY
15TH
JANUARY
10AM -12PM

5 WEEK COURSE
Online in realtime



Only £15

Gain the confidence to support your child on this 5-week course.

You'll learn how phonics, early reading and writing are taught in school. You will learn lots of exciting ideas that can benefit your child's learning and help them to make reading and writing fun. You will be shown games and activities that you can do at home as a family to help develop your child's skills.



01992 556194

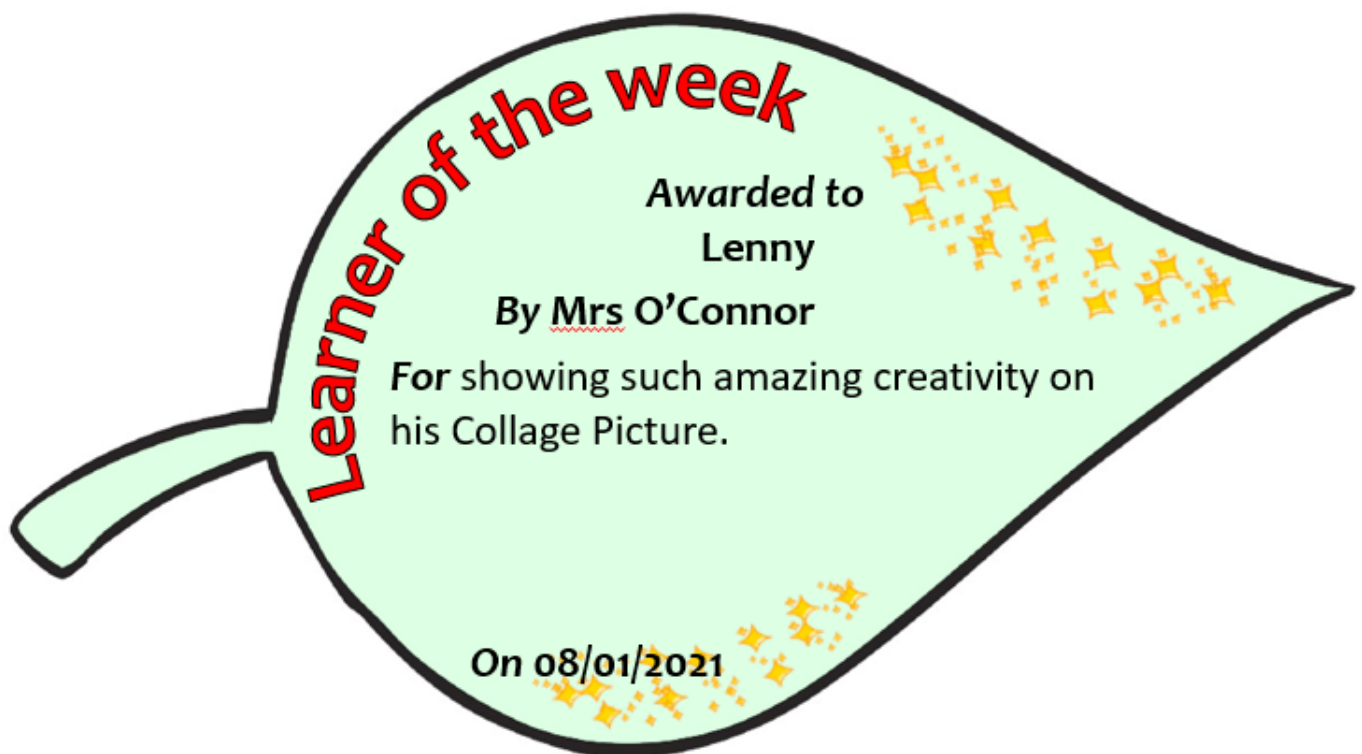
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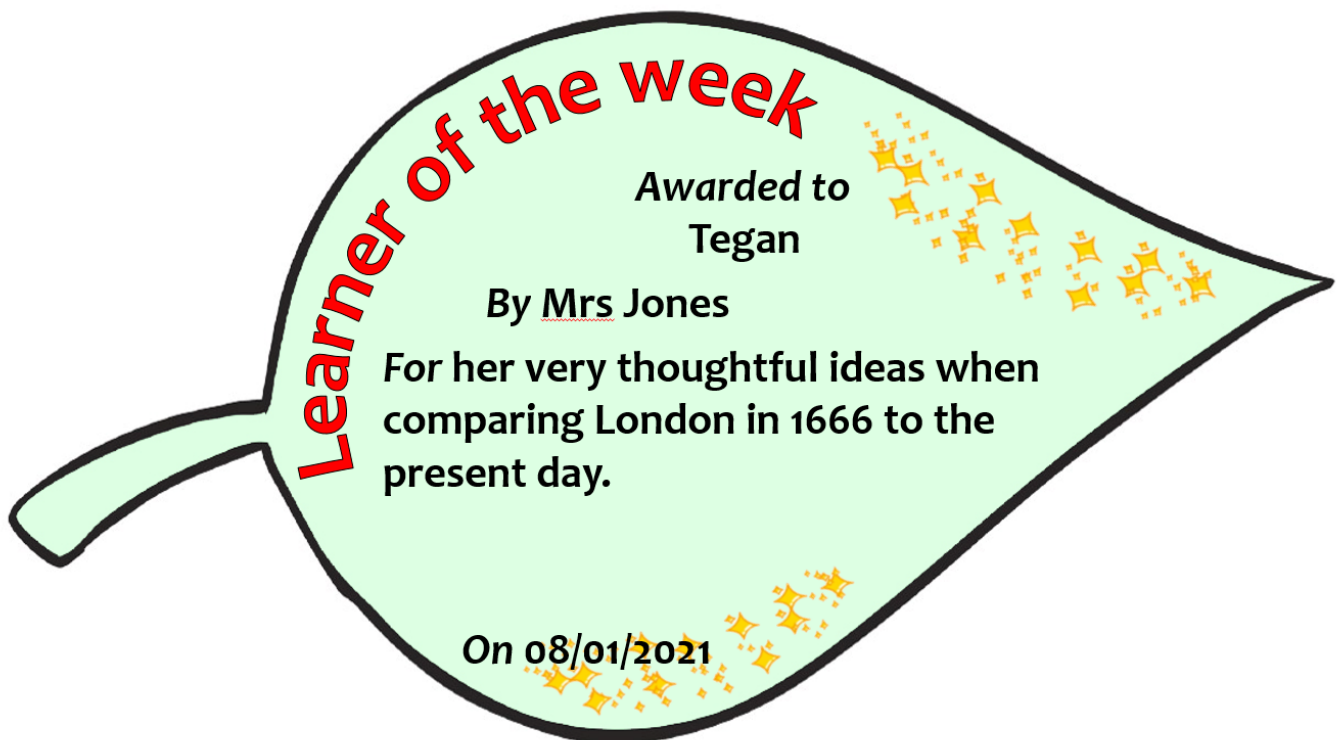
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Pantherswood



Homewood



Warrenwood

Learner of the week

Awarded to
Aleks

By Mr Woodhouse

For his amazing stop motion
Woolly Rhino video.

On 08/01/2021

Learner of the week

Awarded to
All of Warrenwood

By Mr Woodhouse

For fantastic engagement with online
learning from everybody in the
class!

On 08/01/2021

Harefield

Learner of the Week

Awarded to

Albert Rogers

By Mrs Foster

For completing his online learning and showing great effort with his work. I am very impressed with Albert's first week. It has been fantastic to see him persevering with tasks and engaging with his classmates.

On 08/01/2021

Learner of the Week

Awarded to

Annalise Donoghue

By Mrs Pulham

For working hard in English. Annalise researched her own topic and used this information to write her own PowerPoint. It was a fantastic effort and a great read!

On 08/01/2021

Love Yourself - Love Others - Love God - Love Learning - Love the World You Live In

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