



Essendon C of E (VC) Primary School

Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works

Newsletter: 22nd May 2020

COVID 19 RETURN-TO-SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

KEY POINTS:

- The first day of school is **Tuesday 2nd June**.
- The **only** pupils returning to school are: **Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 6** and vulnerable pupils who have been attending school during the previous half-term.
- Children in other year groups will continue to be offered provision at home via the Seesaw online learning platform.
- Until further notice, school will be opening only on **Mondays, Tuesdays** and **Wednesdays**.
- Your child should wear school uniform if possible. If this is not possible (for example, if your child has outgrown their uniform and you cannot get a replacement), please send them in plain, school-appropriate clothing.
- You can read our Return-to-School Plan and Risk Assessment on the school website.
- We stress that **parents have the right to decide** whether to return their children to school. No action will be taken against those keeping their children at home.



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Whole class engagement this week...

Whole School -
Pantherswood -
Homewood -
Warrenwood -
Harefield -



This half term, our value is:



Healthy minds network

For non-judgemental support and advice on mental health, you can visit <https://www.herts-mindnetwork.org/young-peoples-helpline> or call 01923 256391.

Dear Essendon families ...

We have made it to the end of the half term, and as I reflect on the events of the past weeks, perhaps the phrase “all in it together” has never been so apt. On behalf of the staff, I’d like to offer a huge “congratulations” to you, our amazing parents, who have been working through so many varied and complex challenges to maintain continuity and stability for your children. However you have managed to keep going over the lockdown period, I salute you and your tremendous efforts.

The concept of a “holiday” seems rather strange right now, but I hope that half-term provides you at the very least with a break and some respite to enjoy the time with your families. During the coming week, we will be gearing up for the return of children to school on Tuesday 2nd of June, so thanks very much to all those of you who have completed our online survey which has helped us to know which children to expect. If you haven’t done so yet, it’s not too late – the survey can be found at www.surveylegend.com/s/2aqh

We are tremendously excited to begin welcoming the children back into school, in the first step towards returning to what we hope will soon be normality, and we await to see what the government will decide with regard to children in years 2 to 5. Nevertheless, we also recognise that many of you will remain anxious about the wisdom of re-opening schools. Please remember, the school staff and community is here to support you in making these difficult choices with regard to your children. Have a great break!

With love and best wishes, Mr Potter

Community support

Essendon residents are continuing to offer support to those feeling isolated and anxious due to the coronavirus outbreak. Please feel free to call them on 07442499601 if you:

- Feel lonely or anxious
- Need practical help e.g. Shopping
- Just for a chat

Kindly Note: We are not medically trained. We are fellow villagers so please do not call us if:

- It is a medical emergency - call 999
- Need medical advice - call NHS 111

If you would like to help out with this service, please contact Vicky Craig.

Governor view

Every morning I’ve been starting my day by watching the virtual collective worships, and it’s been so nice to see the familiar faces of teachers and our new Head. As well as some lovely Bible stories, there have been some very interesting and inspirational topics covered, such as improving our wellbeing, highlighting isolation, anxiety, and self esteem. This half term’s value of ‘Love’ has been discussed and in particular the importance of showing kindness to each other. We’ve been taught new songs and learnt about people who are an inspiration to us. We’ve even had a message from the Archbishop of Canterbury! For those of you who haven’t yet done so, I would highly recommend that you start the day by opening the link!

Pauline Alleyne, Foundation Governor



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What should you expect to see if you are coming back to school on Tuesday 2nd June?

The school is going to look a little bit different on the first day back, and pupils might be in a different location from their usual classroom. You might find it useful to show these pictures to your child to help them understand what to expect when they come in.

Outside the front of school we have a one way system in place



Pantherswood looks a little barer than usual



The library is zoned off



The classrooms have been rearranged and the Hall is set up with desks and chairs





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Congratulations to this week's online stars of the week! We've had another brilliant week on Seesaw with many children demonstrating wonderful creativity and endeavour. Well done to you all!

Pantherswood:

Ifie, Evie and Harry for being caring and thoughtful towards others in completing lots of the Kindness Challenges.

Eden, Ralph and Alisha for their amazing and creative Nature Sculptures.

Mason, Carter and Rowan for their wonderful research and pictures of the Planets in our Solar System.

Homewood

Tegan for her fantastic maths work.

Sonnie for his great effort to learn his spellings.

Aleks for getting into the Guinness Book of World Records!

Jayen and Ishen for their science investigation into the importance of washing hands.

Dimitri for brilliant effort in maths.

Archie for fantastic exploring of the great outdoors.

Warrenwood:

Daniel, Erin and Joe who have each produced some fabulous pieces of writing on the topic of ancient Pompeii this week!

Harefield

George for working extra hard on fractions in Maths.

Evan for working really well in all subjects especially English.

This week's fabulous home-learning!

Over the page, you can see a selection of the work our brilliant pupils have been doing this week. Well done everyone for all your efforts!

Mrs Pinfold's PE Challenge: Bronze award!

Mrs Pinfold says: "Oh dear, we're stuck on Bronze! We need more children showing off their skills on Seesaw to get us to a Silver award after half-term!"



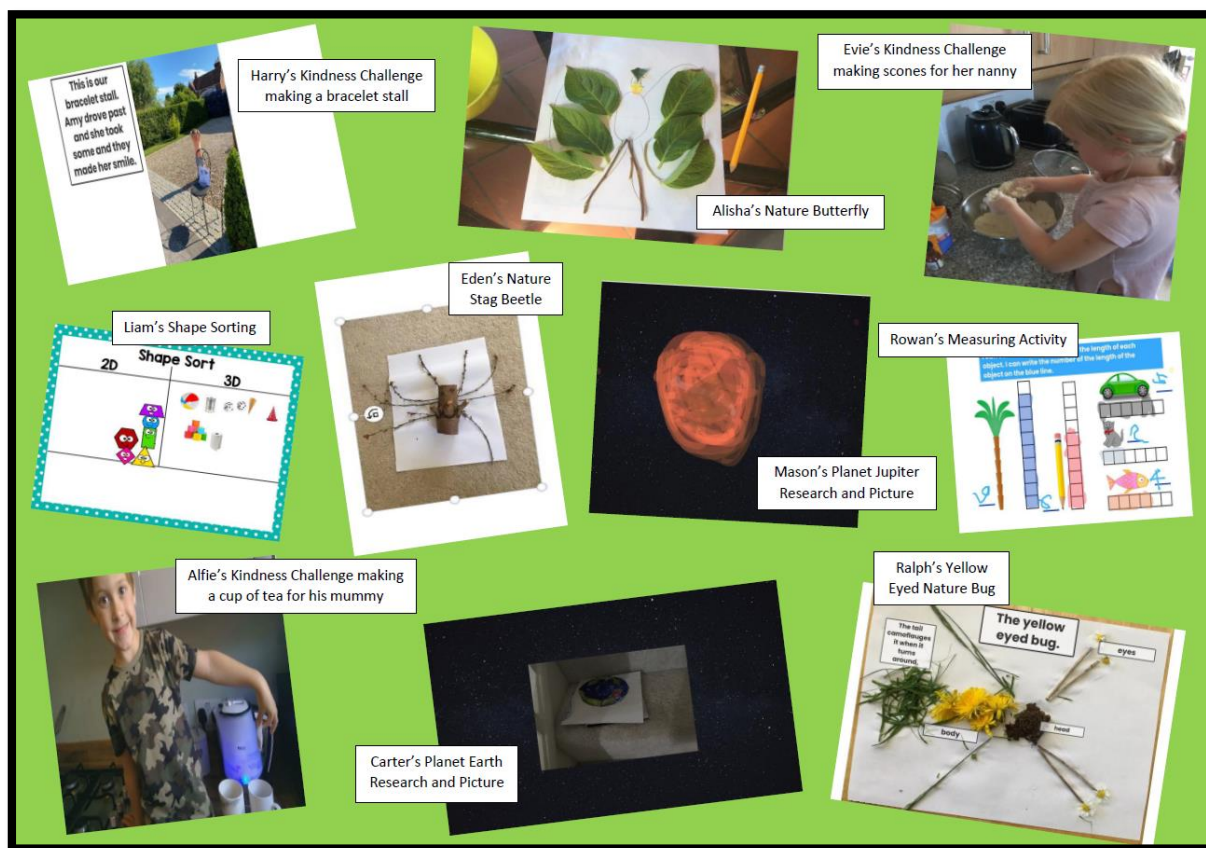


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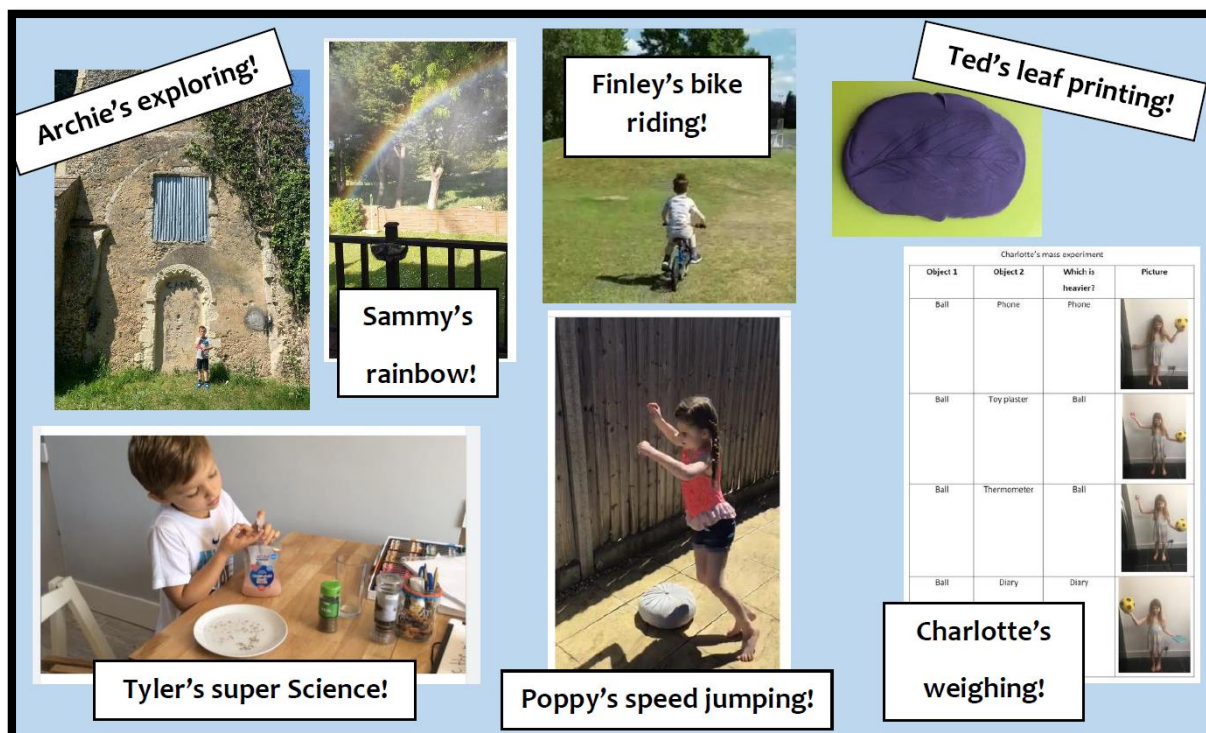
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Pantherswood



Homewood





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Warrenwood



Harefield

