



ESHER CHURCH SCHOOL

Christ at the Centre; Life to the Full

Esher Church School, Milbourne Lane, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9DU Tel: 01372 463 139 e-mail: info@esherchurchschool.org.uk

ECSnews

'So, whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.' 1 Corinthians 10:31

Friday 3rd July 2020

Dear Parents



It has been wonderful to welcome most of our Year 5 children to school for some short sessions this week. They have enjoyed seeing their classmates again and learning and playing together—the photos show a socially distanced maze, a game of 'beat the goalie', 'ball tag' and sharing 'assembly' in Madam Octa bubble. We understand the disappointment of the children in years 2, 3 and 4 who are longing to come back to school and we are thrilled that the expectation is that all children will be back in September. We are digesting the government recommendations for the autumn term and are making plans to ensure that the school site is as safe as possible whilst safeguarding the social and emotional wellbeing of our children by allowing them to interact and play relatively freely. Also on our priority list is to ensure that we continue to deliver the depth and breadth of curriculum that our children are accustomed to while we identify and bridge any gaps in learning as a result of the Covid-19 lockdown. Interesting times ahead—but we always enjoy a challenge at Esher Church School and look forward to embracing this 'new normal' together.

It was lovely to see our Year 2 children this week for their 'celebration afternoon' even if the weather didn't really agree that a celebration was in order. It was disappointing that we were unable to do the sporting activities we had planned but the children were so pleased to see one another and, of course, enjoyed having their photographs taken for the 'virtual tie assembly' which will be coming parents' way soon.

Our Vision:

To be a safe, happy, loving community where excellent teaching inspires children to learn and explore, care for each other and believe that they can make a difference.

We are hoping to reschedule the sports element of the event so the children might get to come back again before the end of term—let's hope the weather agrees that this is a good idea.

The children are, of course, super excited about having their ties and are getting used to wearing them already—this is Benjamin dropping his little brother off to school this morning and Isla doing her home learning 'shape hunt' already ready for the juniors. You are all going to make brilliant Year 3 children.



Enjoy the weekend

CBell

Cathy Bell
Headteacher

Do you have experience in property law?

The ECS governors are looking for a property lawyer to help us with a small land issue with one of our neighbours. We are reluctant to spend school funds on matters such as these, however we do need to protect the best interests of the school, so would be grateful if a member of our parent community was able to assist us with some legal advice and support.

If you think you can help, please contact Adrian de la Touche on 07976 831 121

Extra Support

We appreciate that things aren't easy for any of us at the current time and there may be even more pressures on families as lockdown continues to ease. If you need additional support with anything please contact us. Do not think that your family needs may not be important enough to seek help—we will do all we can to support you. You can contact the office on office@esherchurchschool.org.uk or on 01372 463 139.

Free School Meal Eligibility—Have your circumstances changed?

If you think you might be entitled to free school meals please get in touch with our office staff urgently. We can check your eligibility quickly with just your name and National Insurance Number. You may be eligible for free school meals if you are now eligible for any of the following:

- Income Support
 - income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
 - income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
 - Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get).

During the outbreak the government are also temporarily extending free school meal eligibility to include some groups (subject to household income) that have no recourse to public funds, including:

- children of Zambrano carers
- children of families with no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights
- children of families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 **who are also** subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- children of a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

If you think you might be eligible for free school meals please contact the school immediately. It is easy for us to check and we will be able to get vouchers to you if your child is at home during the school closure. Furthermore the school will receive additional funding to further support your child's education which can be used to support extra curricular activities, trips etc too.

Support from school and church

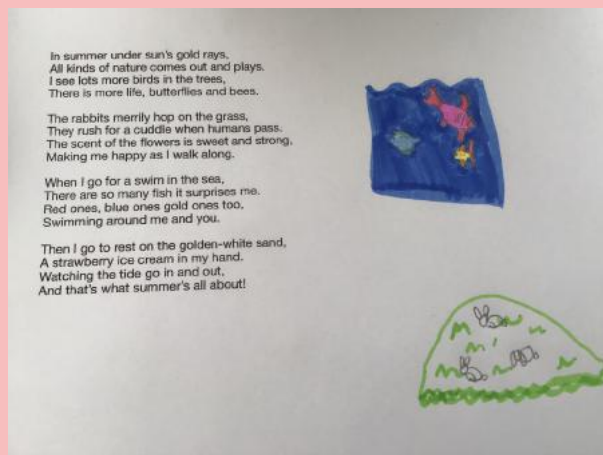
If you, or your child, are finding life a bit of a struggle at the moment and need some extra support please do get in touch with us. Our Home School Link Worker and ELSA support is still available by phone and we have had many parents and staff volunteer to reach out to anyone in need and offer any support they can. The staff teams at our local churches are also very happy to offer pastoral support. So whether you need something practical or just to have a chat with someone do please let us know. We will be really happy to help.

this week's highlights

Thousands of years ago on earth,
When early humans roamed on lush green turf.
These were the first of many summers to come,
Now that the last freezing Ice Age was done.

Thousands of years later, today
The summer still comes after the Spring days.
But our summer days will end,
Because Autumn is right around the bend.

Thousands of years in the future,
Our summers might not feature.
It is estimated that a new Ice Age will begin,
So let's enjoy the warm weather we're in.



The sun shines bright
As the birds take flight
The air feels so hot
I long for a shady spot

A gentle breeze blows
A lazy river flows
I hear the crickets chirp
I long for an ice cream slurp

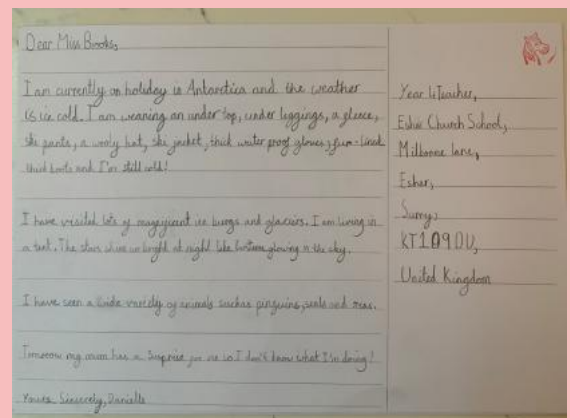
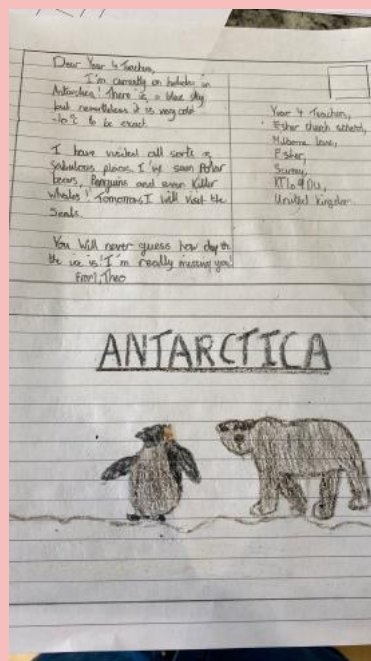
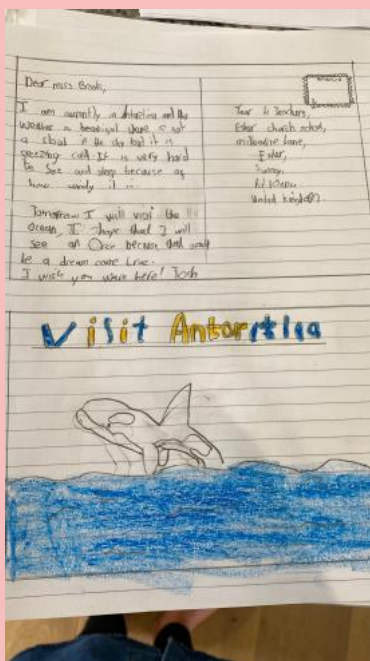
The bees buzz among the petals
The butterfly flits and never settles
The summer days are long
Filled with laughter fun and song

Three beautiful summer poems by Faye in Kipling (bottom left), Lucas in Lewis (top left) and Heidi in Kipling (top right).

Great maths by Alexander in Year 1.

10	+	9	=	19
20	+	15	=	35
29	+	30	=	59
59	+	50	=	109
28	-	16	=	12
27	-	8	=	19
26	-	17	=	9
25	-	14	=	11

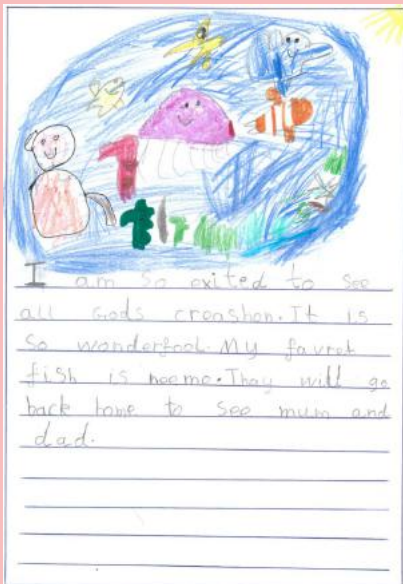
Some amazing Year 4 postcards from Antarctica for their Big Enquiry topic by Josh and Danielle in Kipling and Theo and Ella G in Lewis.



this week's highlights



Beautiful rainforest displays by Luke in Rosen Class (left) and Freya in Morpurgo (right).

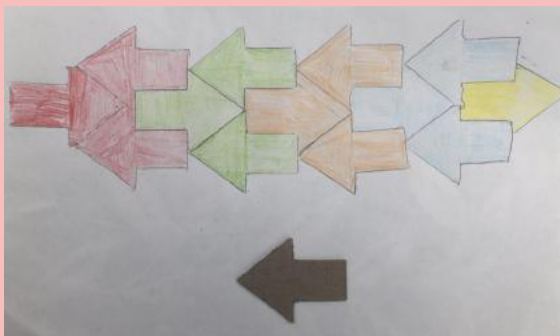


Mr Cheerful bubble measuring things using non standard units such as blocks

Lovely writing while learning from home by Esther in Reception.



Wonderful tessellation by Willoughby in Year 2.



A wonderful letter from Ollie in Rowling Class to Greta Thunberg showing his knowledge of climate change and the issues surrounding it.

