
Newsletter

13th May 2021



ESHER CHURCH SCHOOL

Christ at the Centre; Life to the Full

Head's Lines

Dear Parents/Carers

We are really enjoying the House Points assembly and hearing about all the wonderful things children demonstrate to receive a House Point. Well done to Community with a total of 185 House Points and for winning the weekly total again this week. Indeed, well done for anyone who earned a House Point this week; keep up the great work!

I am pleased to hear that the ECSA are busy planning for the summer term; we are looking forward to less restrictions and more fun events. Thank you to the ECSA in advance.

Thinking of restrictions, I have heard from many parents this week about the difficulties with traffic, parking and walking on Milbourne Lane. To aid with this, as of Monday, families will be able to walk out of either gate at the end of the school day. This means that if you usually collect Year 1,2,or 3 from the front gate you can now walk around to the back of the school to exit via the playground. This will mean a relaxation of the previous one-way system so I urge all parents/carers to support us by wearing mask, unless you are exempt, whilst on school property and maintaining social distancing.

I would like to end this week with a thought for all the people in India who are or have been affected by COVID. Please keep these people in your prayers.

Have a super weekend.

Best wishes

Caroline McLennan

Acting Headteacher

Hello!



Just look at all the awards this week!

Dates for the Diary

25th May – year 6 Trip to Young Mariners

27th May – Y4 Trip to Juniper Hall

31st May - School finishes for Half Term

7 June – School restarts

5th July – Y1 Trip to Brooklands Museum

INSET Days:

28th May

28th June

21st July

Awards

Skye Y3 - Bronze Maths badge

Olivia P Y3 - Bronze Maths badge

William Y3 - Bronze Maths badge

Finn Y4 - Bronze Maths badge

Annie Y3 - Silver Maths badge

Joshua Y3 - Silver Maths badge

Gavin Y3 - Silver Maths badge

Louis Y3 - Silver Maths badge

Bella Y4 – Silver Maths badge

Grace Y4 – Silver Maths badge

Lottie Y4 – Silver Maths badge

Daisy Y5 - Silver Maths badge

Luna Y5 - Silver Maths badge

Olivia Y3 - Bronze Spelling Badge

Tino Y5 - Silver Spelling Badge

Matteus Y5 - Silver Spelling Badge

Matteus Y5 - Pen Licence

Lyla Y5 - Pen Licence

Chris Y5 - Pen Licence

George Y5 - Pen Licence

Thomas Y5 - Pen Licence

English News



Year 4 have worked brilliantly this week to create their very own stories written in the style of Oscar Wilde's, *The Selfish Giant*. I'm sure you'll agree they've done a fantastic job! They even read each other's stories and wrote book reviews for them.

Year 6 have been learning about how different coastal features are formed. This lovely piece of writing by Sarah explains how.

Mastering Maths and Computing

In Reception we have been learning about halving starting with objects and then moving onto numbers.

The children have been working together to make sure that they can share the cubes fairly so that they have half each. We have also enjoyed trying to beat the clock by quickly saying what half of numbers to 10 and 20 are before the time runs out.



Year 1 have been learning about Capacity. *The big question of the week is: Is a cup half full or half empty?* They have been using mathematical language to describe the amount of water in containers eg half full, nearly full, empty etc. They counted how many pots make 1 litre as well as looking at which containers contain more or less liquid.

Year 4 have been practising their maths skills this week. They have been multiplying and dividing decimals by 10, 100 and 1000 and it has been a challenge to complete ALL the questions. We have learnt not to 'just' add a zero on the end or 'just' move the decimal. The place value chart has been crucial for us in developing our next maths step.

New Way of Reading

Throughout the school, the children have been learning to read through a new approach: **whole-class, choral reading**. They have been brilliant and the teachers are loving it!

We begin with a new text extract (so far, *The Treasure Seekers* in Year 3, *The Lost World* in Year 6 to name just a couple of examples) and we follow the same sequence through a series of lessons.

We begin with the teacher doing a 'model read' of the whole text, followed by a 'choral read' which involves the whole class reading at once.

Next read is 'jump-in', where the teacher starts and then gives a signal for the class to 'jump-in' and continue reading.

The next read (pick-up) is quite similar but this time involves individual readers 'picking-up' from the teacher when a signal is given.

The following lessons are devoted to a close study of vocabulary, retrieval of information and making inferences about the text.

The sequence of lessons ends with a set of 'Big Questions' for the children to write their answers. Ask your child about it if you would like to know some more.

This Week in RE



This week the Reception children have been looking at the Parable of 'The Prodigal Son' and forgiveness. They then created their own hug from God to remember that he will forgive us. The children worked on their fine motor skills by drawing around their own hands and then carefully cutting them out.

Year 4 have been learning about the importance of the Guru Granth Sahib Ji for Sikhs. They have been studying the language Gurmukhi and wrote the days of the week in the Guru's language. They enjoyed studying quotes from the Guru and interpreting them in their own way. They found out that the Guru Granth Sahib Ji is treated as a person and respected in many ways.



Year 5 continued to look at how Jesus taught us to live our lives through the Sermon on the Mount, focusing on worry. They considered what worry is and looked at how Jesus said "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?" Once we discussed some of the things we worry about we learnt that things always work themselves out in the end and that often we worry less if we have faith in God - that he will watch over us and support us through it.

Please support us

ECS School Fund

At Esher Church School we believe that primary education is not just about lessons. Everything we do is designed to contribute to your children's personal and social development, so that when they leave us at the end of Year Six, they are starting to make their own choices about who they are, what they do and believe that they can make a difference in the world. We do this through our exciting 'enquiry-led' curriculum which we compliment with experiences that widen and enrich their learning.



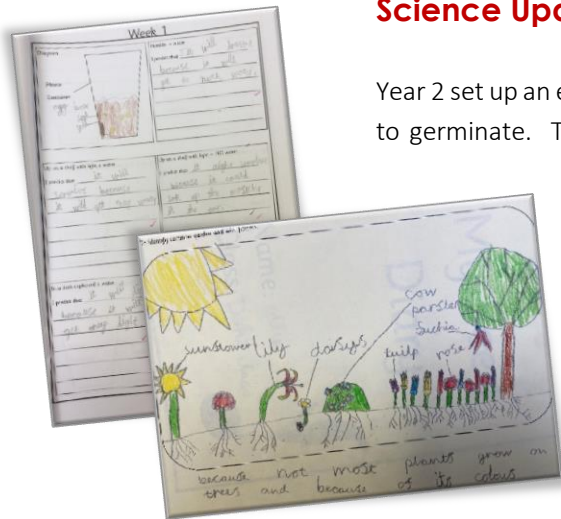
For example, we regularly bring into school visiting groups and professionals - theatre companies, authors, artists and musicians - who provide inspiring workshops that not only stimulate an interest in learning, but help to develop a range of learning styles, creating enjoyable and memorable experiences along the way. In addition, we arrange regular curricular trips as part of each year-groups' termly Big Enquiry, and donations to the School fund also allow us to subsidise these, keeping prices more affordable for all.

Now that trips and activities have resumed, we would be really grateful if you would use your ScoPay account to make your payment.

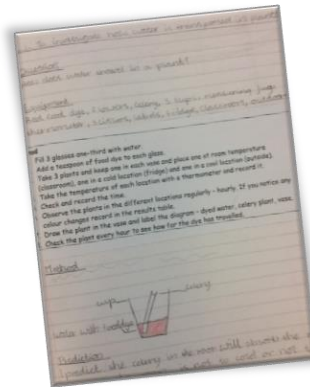
Science Update

Year 2 set up an experiment to find out what plants need to germinate. They made predictions about what will happen to the plants in the different conditions they were put in and are going to observe them over the next few weeks.

They learnt about common flowers and discussed how many gardeners are trying to encourage a variety of wild flowers for the wildlife.



Year 3 have been investigating the question 'How does water get transported in plants?' They used celery and food dye and placed the celery in three different locations.



Staying Fit and Keeping Well



Year 6 enjoyed their visit to High Ashurst last week, where they learned how to work together as a team through codebreaking and orienteering activities, as well as facing their fears and working safely to conquer a crate-stack and leap of faith activity!

In the Community

ECSA



- The fun run is a 3.3km route in Arbrog Woods and you can choose to walk, jog or run it. There are medals for the top 3 boys and girls but it can be done just for fun or as a personal challenge.
- The 10km run starts and finishes near Arbrog Woods with a loop around part of Claygate.
- Both runs can be completed from 1st to 16th May and will be signposted. Once you register for the run, you will receive more information about the route and how to record your time.