

Newsletter

27th May 2021



ESHER CHURCH SCHOOL

Christ at the Centre; Life to the Full

Head's Lines

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to say a huge well done to Community House who, by working as a team, have managed to collect an impressive 715 House Points. This means they are our very first half term winners. On Monday 7th June anyone in Community House can wear something green instead of their school uniform.

By now you will have seen the correspondence from Ben Homes, Chair of Governors, about the staff changes in September. I would like to reassure you that I will spend time handing over to new staff, including Oliver May, and ensure that any current priorities are still a focus for the school. I have already spent time with Oliver and I feel that he will fit into the Esher Church School community very well, and I know that you will welcome and support him as you always do.



Today we said goodbye to the lovely Jackie Burton, a trusted and well respected member of the Esher Church School team who has taught in almost every class! We would like to wish Jackie the very best and know that she will keep in touch (in fact, Mrs Burton is already booked in for some supply!).

Thank you to the wonderful Office Ladies, who have been very busy with Admissions these past couple of weeks. We are excited to be planning move up days for Reception children joining us in September, but before that we are looking forward to welcoming four new children to our community after half term. I know you will make them feel very welcome.

I hope you all have a super half term; the weather looks relatively good. Fingers crossed!

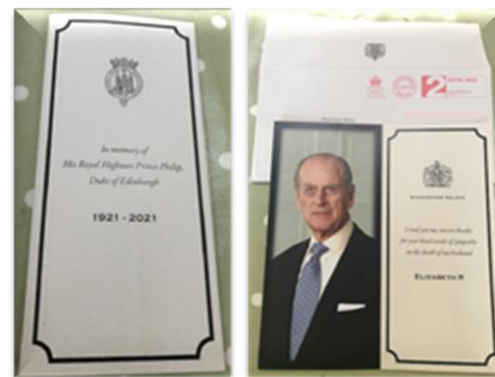
Best wishes

Caroline McLennan

Acting Headteacher

For snippets of daily news, don't forget you can follow us on Twitter or Facebook.

Important Announcement



Freya in Year 4 sent Her Majesty the Queen a wonderful acrostic poem in response to the death of the Duke of Edinburgh. It was based on the word BRAVE with illustrations of a rose and a cross. What a lovely thing to do.

Here is the special reply she got.

Dates for the Diary

31st May - School finishes for Half Term

1st to 2nd June – Holiday Club

7th June – School restarts

5th July – Y1 Trip to Brooklands Museum

Please check and clear your ScoPay accounts over half term.

INSET Days:

28th June

21st July

Awards

Mila Y2 – Bronze Spelling

William Y2 – Bronze Maths

Milo Y2 - Silver Maths Badge

Arthur Y2 – Gold Maths Badge

Finn Y2 – Gold Maths Badge

Bella Y3 - Bronze Maths

Gavin Y3 - Bronze Maths

Malissa Y5 - Bronze Maths

Meet Mr May



We are delighted that Mr Oliver May will be joining us in September as Deputy Head Teacher.

Mr May has a wealth of experience in Primary education and has most recently been Interim Headteacher of Goldworth Primary School. Prior to this he has held Assistant Head and Team Leadership roles, and provided subject leadership in Maths, Assessment and PE. His experience and expertise will be of great value to the strategic improvements we are currently

implementing at Esher Church School.

Mr May has a BSC in Geography from Liverpool University and a PGCE from Southampton University. He attended The Royal Grammar School, Guildford. He lives in West Horsley with his wife and two daughters, loves sport, with football and Chelsea FC closest to his heart! This is what he says about joining us:

"It is with huge excitement that I have accepted the role of Deputy Head at Esher Church School and I look forward to supporting the school further in enhancing its Teaching & Learning offer. Having toured the school recently, I was struck by the wonderfully caring ethos of the school which was so evident in all the children I met."

The Junior Maths Challenge

This is a 60-minute, multiple-choice competition aimed at Year 7 and Year 8 children across the UK. The challenge encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

We are so proud that 44 of our able mathematicians in years 5 and 6 participated in the challenge last month. Just to participate is a great achievement and it's an even bigger achievement to receive a Bronze, Silver or Gold award. It is with great pleasure that we are able to announce that the following children have been awarded the following certificates.

Silver Award

Daisy Matthews - *Best in School*
William Carswell
Edward Fulk
Daniel Cheung (Year 5)

Bronze Award

Sarah Jacob
James Edwards
Harvey Connop
Zoe Cheung
Harry Woodward
Zoe Colyer
Freddie Sutton (year 5)
Danielle Mcglashan (year 5)
Antonio Constantine (year 5)

A special commendation also goes to Isabelle Williams as she only missed the bronze award by 1 mark.

Holiday Club in Half Term

A reminder that you can still book your child's places for the Half Term Holiday Club which runs on the 1st June and 2nd June.

Holiday Club is for children of all ages at the school. The children will have the opportunity to take part in various activities during the day. We are going to be doing craft activities and baking and well as opening the swimming pool for a daily splash around.

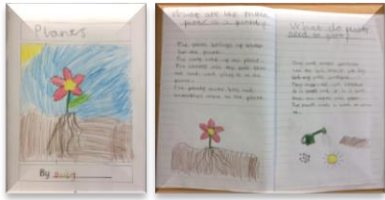
The children will be able to take part in other sports and have free time to enjoy the playzone. Once we have exhausted ourselves outside, we will be able to sit down to watch a film (popcorn will be provided).

An example plan for the day would be:

8.30 am Arrival
9.30: Free time
10am: Craft Activity
11am: Swimming
12.30pm: Lunch
1.30pm: Free time
2.30pm Sport or other activity
3.30-pm-5pm Film

Holiday club can be booked via ScoPay either full days or half days.

English News



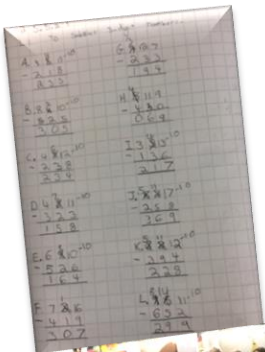
Year 2 published their books about plants this week. The audience they were writing for were new gardeners and the purpose of the books was to help readers understand the needs of their garden.

There was lots of writing being done by Year 5 this week as they finished their Big Enquiry with a whole day filled with Ancient Greek learning. They designed some pottery, taste tested some Ancient Greek food and took part in their very own Greek Olympics – it was really good fun - even though they didn't necessarily love all the food they tried!



Computing

Year 2 recapped finding three quarters and learned how to find two thirds. They also learned how to count in fractions using the counting stick. Whilst in Year 3, the children have been practising column subtraction of 3-digit numbers.



The Reception children have been learning all about coding using the coding caterpillar. First they went through simple instructions taking one step forward and turning left and right. Next the children looked at the symbols on the different parts of the caterpillar's body and we discussed what instruction it would give to the caterpillar. Then we coded the caterpillar by adding the different body parts in the correct order so that it would move around the coloured spots and play a little tune.



In the Community

Thank you to the School Parliament for suggesting the Mufti Day held on Thursday 27th May.

The children looked wonderful in their outfits; representing the job/career that they would like to do in the future and we are grateful for everyone's support and enthusiasm.



Donaldson class in their future careers. Lawyers to palaeontologists!



Butterworth Class on Careers day! Doctors, vets, footballers, writers, artists and of course teachers!

A special thank you to our Year 5 and 6 volunteers who supported their houses and helped the staff bowl, score, award certificates and organise the Year 3 and 4 Inter-House Rounders this week.

This Week in RE

In Reception the children have been looking at parables and we ended the term with the Mustard Seed. They also looked at the Story of the Centurian and how he showed his faith. They discussed how even though they are young and small they will grow big like a seed and we can still help God by being kind and helping others. Even if it is only helping by doing something small it can make a big difference. The children planted their own sunflower seeds to remind them that we will grow big like a seed and that God's love grows ever bigger and created pictures showing their sunflower seeds growing bigger



Science Update

In Science this week, Year 1 have been making houses for The Three Little Pigs! The wind and the rain were the perfect test for the houses. It seems that not all materials are waterproof, strong and sturdy. The children used exciting scientific language when evaluating the experiment.



Inter-House Rounders

It was a very windy competition day for Year 3 but that didn't deter them from putting all their energy and enthusiasm into every match. It was a hard fought tournament and there were some very close games, with only a couple of points separating the teams. ***Our values awards went to Annie, Joshua, Dexter and Willoughby for showing real tenacity and dignity throughout and a great sense of community through their teamwork.*** When the points were totalled for the main competition it was Hope that came out on top and lifted the cup for Year 3.

The weather did its very best for Year 4 for their rounders matches. The children were eager first thing to get going and with some big hits and fast running it was no surprise that scores were close. ***Our value awards went to Matt, Anton and Luca for displaying excellent teamwork, tactics and support for others.*** We gathered in the hall to find out who the cup would be awarded too, it was another win for Hope with some excellent run scores for the other houses.

Congratulations to all our winners and well done to all the children for their efforts. We look forward to the Sports Days coming soon.

This week's Trips

Year 4 were blessed with wonderful weather on their field trip to Juniper Hall. They explored the grounds using their map skills to carry out orienteering. Then they drew their own maps in order to challenge other groups to find hidden cones.



Then they designed prototype shelters fit for a little mouse in preparation for creating their own dens; strong and secure enough for them to use.

Year 6 had a great time at their adventure trip to Thames Young Mariners in Richmond on Tuesday. They took part in a day of water-based activities, including kayaking and raft-building, ending the day with a soaking wet dock jump!

