



EASEBOURNE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

7th October, 2016

DATES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

W/B Monday 10th October	Poetry Week	
Thursday 13th October	Maths Workshop for Children and Parents - Foxes and Otters	8.50am - 10.00am
Friday 14th October	PTFA Fairies and Scaries	5.30-8.00pm
Monday 17th October	Meet the Teacher - Dragonflies	3.15pm
Tuesday 18th October	Year 5 Big Sing at MRC	tbc
Thursday 20th October	Environment Day	
Friday 21st October	Inset Day - School Closed	
Monday 24th-Friday 28th October	Half Term	

A Word from the Head

Dear Parents

Ofsted

As parents will know, we have just had an inspection by Ofsted. A phone call at midday on Tuesday announced the arrival of the two inspectors (along with an additional inspector who was observing the process) at 8 o'clock the next day. The staff worked long into the evening to make sure we were as ready as we could be. The inspectors spent Wednesday and Thursday with us, from 8 till 6 each day. Like any good Ofsted team, they then put us under the microscope, talking to everybody, going everywhere and checking everything they could, in the two days. They met with children, parents, staff, governors and advisers. They watched lessons and they interrogated our data. They were thorough.



You should know that your children were a credit to you throughout and made us all very proud of them. A new feature of the inspection is the opportunity for children to upload comments – a fairly tall order given the short notice and limited timescale. Despite these constraints, 45 children did and I would like to thank parents for facilitating this. I would also like to thank all the parents who added their comments. Despite clear technical issues, acknowledged by the inspection team, 114 of you persevered and uploaded comments and the inspectors were struck by their positive nature.

The report should be published in 15 working days, allowing for quality assurance, but can sometimes take a little longer. We will let you know the result as soon as it is published.

Road Dahl Models

You may have noticed some new models hanging in the library. These were made by children to celebrate 'Roald Dahl 100' and really bring extra colour to the library. Thank you to those children who designed and made them – a fantastic effort!

Disabled Parking Spaces and Drop Off Zone

We have had a number of complaints about parents without disabled parking badges parking in the disabled parking spaces. This has meant that drivers who do display a disabled parking badge have been unable to park. I know, from working with the disability group, Enable Me, over the years and talking about frustrations of limited mobility with its volunteers that people blocking disabled parking spaces is incredibly frustrating. Over the summer, I met with members of the Parish Council and we are planning a traffic initiative, involving our JRSO's and I plan to meet with these children to talk about this

parking problem. It may be that reviving the parking ticket scheme for the disabled spaces is one way forward. This would not be necessary if parents could respect that these are spaces specifically reserved for drivers who are displaying the appropriate badge.

I have also noticed that some parents are using the drop off zone to park in, rather than for the purpose for which it is designed. If you park in this area, you force other parents, who wish to use the area correctly, to queue up behind you and this in turn makes the pedestrian crossing a vulnerable area. We have had requests from a number of parents to reinstate our JRSO patrols, and this is under consideration.

Union Jack

Thanks to the generosity of Ian Goodall, one of our governors, we will soon own a new Union Jack. Keep your eyes peeled!

Summer Reading Challenge

On Monday Kate Pontin, Midhurst Librarian and Louisa Cork, West Sussex Children's Librarian, came to school to congratulate the children on their strong participation in the Summer Reading Challenge. They reminded the children what a great opportunity having Midhurst Library on the doorstep represented and encouraged all children to join (it's free) and start borrowing! They also awarded a new little trophy to Red House, presented to House Captain Phoebe, which will live in the library. Congratulations to Red House!

Stonepillow

Stonepillow is a local charity that helps the homeless. Stonepillow has been helping rough sleepers to get off the streets for 26 years by offering shelter, information and support. We have decided as a school to continue to collect items to help this charity. The four items that we are collecting this term are bin bags, cling film, toilet roll and sponges/cloths. We already have three items donated which are in our trolley but we really need MORE!

Ten people in Years 4 and 5 will be taking part in the Big Sleepout on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th October at Chichester Cathedral. A sponsorship form will be in Reception if you would like to sponsor us. By Phoebe and Kelcie, Otters Class

Sumdog Competition!

We hope that parents have started to discover the new range of activities opened up by the school's purchase of Sumdog subscriptions for children in Hedgehogs and upwards. Why not have a look? Your child's password should be the same as their Moodle password which can be found in the KIT Book.

The new Sumdog Challenge started this morning at 8am and runs until Thursday 13th October at 8pm. Please note that your child's level is determined by the site, not the school and your child will be asked some diagnostic questions to find their level. Children answering 1,000 questions will automatically be amongst the first new Easebourne Ninjas for this school year and there will be a separate competition for our Easebourne Ninjas to enter later this year.



Poetry Festival

Next week, our new enhanced poetry festival begins. We start with a performance poet, Steve Tasane, in school on the Monday. The children will also have their first sight of the poems they can choose to learn for the recitation competition. After two years, the judges and I feel that we need to start raising the bar and you will notice that the poems show a higher expectation this year. Next week, the literacy focus through the school will be on poetry. Each day, two members of a newly-formed Poetry Squad of ten local enthusiasts will be dropping in to classes each day to share their favourite poems. Our celebration assembly on the Friday will share poetry written during the week.

Parents can help with this in various ways:

- It would be wonderful if you could look out favourite poems to share with your children over the weekend or the next few weeks.
- Do try to show an interest in the poems available to the children to learn. There are poems for different age-ranges and please note that children can only choose poems from this list. In each of the two previous years, there have been one or two children who have come in to recite other poems and, whilst they have performed to the judges, they have not been eligible for the competition. As mentioned above, the poems are more challenging and children will need to be encouraged to start early and give time to them. The sense of achievement will be greater but parental support will make a big difference.

- Show an interest in the poetry your children are writing this week. You could even go one step further and come along to an evening of performance poetry at the school on Friday, 4th November. Local performance poet (and one of our regular judges), Geoff Allnutt, has organised a programme of four performance poets. Tickets will cost £5 – more details to follow. Please note that this evening is aimed at an adult audience and children will not be admitted.

Environment Day – Thursday 20th October

We will finish this half-term with an Environment Day where the whole school will come together to focus on enhancing our school environment. If you would like to come in as an extra pair of hands, you would be very welcome. If you would like to offer to organise an activity, we would be really pleased. Just let us know. The staff and children will be busy next week compiling a list of activities that will take place on the day. We are keen to recruit as many parents as possible to help, so if you have a free morning/afternoon or have any ideas please contact the school office.

Hens

You may have heard that we have some new arrivals. Last Sunday, our school population grew by five permanent members. These were our new ex-battery hens who have been getting used to the extreme change in their circumstances. Currently, they are separated from the bantams but the plan is to introduce them overnight this weekend. Fingers crossed that a pecking order is successfully established! More from the hen helpers in a future newsletter. Eggs are on sale from the school office at either £1 or £1.50 for half a dozen depending on size.

Inset Days

Our next Inset Day is just before half term on Friday 21st October. We have now set the final two Inset Days, which will be on Monday 27th February and Monday 5th June.

Starting School September 2017

If your child was born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 they can start school in September 2017. From Monday 3rd October 2016 to Sunday 15th January 2017, you can apply online on the pupil Admissions Application website at www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions. Free internet access to apply online is available at all West Sussex libraries and Children and Family Centres. Paper forms will only be issued to parents on request. Applications made after the closing date cannot be considered until all other applications have been dealt with. Online applicants will be notified which school their child has been offered by email during the day of Tuesday 18th April 2017. Other applicants will be sent a letter by second class post, posted on 18th April.

Headlice

We are aware that there have been a few children who have recently needed to be treated for head lice. As a result, we ask you to be particularly vigilant in checking your child's hair. I have detailed below the two options to deal with this problem that were recommended by the School Nurse.

1. Wet Combing Method - Head lice may be cleared over a two-week period by the following method: Wash the hair in the normal way with an ordinary shampoo; using lots of hair conditioner and while the hair is very wet, comb through the hair from the roots with a fine tooth comb. Make sure the teeth of the comb slot into the hair at the roots with every stroke and do this over a pale surface, such as a paper towel or the bath; clear the comb of lice between each stroke; wet lice find it difficult to escape and hair which is slippery from conditioner makes it hard for them to keep a grip - so removal with the comb is easier. If you find any lice then repeat this routine every 3 days for 2 weeks, so that any lice emerging from the eggs are removed before they can spread.

2. Using lotions - Your doctor, school nurse, health visitor or local pharmacist will be able to recommend lotions and rinses, which are specially made to kill lice and their eggs quickly and safely. The particular treatment recommended changes from time to time because your local health authority will change from one product to another. This is called a rotational policy. The aim is to prevent head lice becoming resistant to the active ingredient in one particular product. Your pharmacist will be able to explain the correct way to use the product. If the problem persists then you should discuss this further with your family doctor.

Lotion can be obtained from the Health Centre, on prescription, free of charge.

Please do not assume that having carried out one of the above treatments you no longer need to check your child's hair for another month. Headlice are a constant problem but they can be controlled by vigilance.

Foxes and Otters Residential Trip to Little Canada

Last week Otters and Foxes went to PGL Little Canada on the Isle of Wight. When we arrived we had a tour and then we were shown our rooms. We unpacked and set up our beds and then went to have dinner, which was nice. The next day we did amazing activities like zip wire, climbing wall, dragon boating (boats with long paddles, but no dragon involved), abseiling and my personal favourite, the giant swing. On the giant swing your harness is clipped onto a metal bar which you hold onto and you are pulled up as far as you want and then you pull a string to swing. On the last night we had a super fun disco where everyone was dancing to songs like 'Cheerleader', 'Uptown Funk' and 'YMCA'. Some of us had glitter on our faces. My favourite instructors were James and Rihanna. On the final day we were all a little upset because we were going home but happy at the same time because we missed our families. By Max, Otters Class

There is a selection of photos from Little Canada on the last page of this newsletter.

Maths Progression in Calculation Presentation to Parents.

On Wednesday 5th October 2016, children from Year 4 and 6 helped Mr Meaby to teach parents the way we learn maths. At the workshops children went over to the parents and showed them the methods we are taught. We showed them the column method, number lines, positioning and much more. It was lots of fun and we think the parents learnt a lot. We hope we can do it again in the future. By Leah and Ruby

Harvest Festival Service

On Thursday, the whole school walked down to St. Mary's Church for the Harvest Festival Service. We sang some lovely songs that we had practised with Mrs Stevens. Derek told a funny story about rescuing a potato and calling it Patrick. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 sang 'Big Red Combine Harvester' and the whole school sang 'We Plough the Fields and Scatter'. We were lucky to have Rob and Lynne Todd to accompany us on guitar and ukulele and Mary Knight on the organ. Some of the children read prayers and Derek spoke to us about Harvest. We all walked back to school for lunch. It was brilliant. By Maddie and Eloise, Foxes Class



House Update

	Blue	Green	Red	Yellow
Week 1 House Points	2	3	4	1
Week 2 House Points	3	2	4	1
Roald Dahl Models	2	2	3	3
Parish Council Playground Designs	3	3	4	7
Summer Reading Challenge	15	16	19	14
Week 3 House Points	2	3	4	2
Week 4 House Points	3	1	4	2
Total	30	30	42	30

EASEBOURNE PTFA NEWS

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon last Friday and also to all the people who baked & supplied those yummy cakes, it was a huge success and we raised a massive £147.15.

We have one of the children's favourite events coming up next Friday 14th October, the ever so popular 'Fairies & Scaries'. So far, we have a few volunteers offering to help before, during and after the event but if you are able to help in anyway but haven't had a chance to let us know, please contact us via the school office or on Facebook. Tickets are currently on sale at morning drop-off at the front of the school and at afternoon pick-up under the canopy, to the rear of the school. Tickets

are selling quickly so be sure to grab one while you still have a chance! Everybody attending will need a ticket and please remember Fairies & Scaries is only open to pupils of the school and their immediate families. Please note that all children must be accompanied by an adult. We regret that we cannot open the evening to friends or extended family due to maximum numbers allowed on the premises. We advise parents of young children to use their discretion as some of the costumes can be quite scary.

There will be a prize for the prettiest fairy and scariest ghoul from each class. We will also be running a pumpkin carving competition, so be sure to bring your carved pumpkins back into school on the morning of Friday 14th October. Please put your name and house colour on the back of your pumpkin as there will be a winner from each house and everyone that enters will also gain a house point. There will be a cake stall at the disco so any of you Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood fans, please bake, bake, bake and bring them into school on the morning of Friday 14th October.

We also have the Happy Bag Collection next week, so if you have any more bags that need to come into school please bring them in by morning drop-off on Thursday 13th October.



**Early Days and Easebourne Owls
Spooky Half Term at
Easebourne Owls Holiday Club**



We will be running a holiday club on
Tuesday 25th, Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th October
8.30am-4.30pm

£15.00 per am/pm session or £30 per child per full day.

*Children aged from 2-10 years
Prior booking is essential to guarantee your child's place*

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