



EASEBOURNE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

6th December, 2019

Dates for the next 2 weeks

Monday 9th December	Christmas Performance by Hedgehogs and Squirrels to the School	
Tuesday 10th December	Christmas Performance Hedgehogs and Squirrels – Matinee. Otters Class to sing at the Cowdray Pensioners Christmas Lunch	2.00 pm
Wednesday 11th December	Christmas Performance Hedgehogs and Squirrels – Evening. Year 6 pupils to sing at the Christmas Friendship Tea at St. Mary's Church (pick up from church)	6.00 2.30-3.30
Thursday 12th December	Paul Ulson – Victoriana Visit – Yrs 3 & 4 Fantastic Finish – Rabbits and Badgers Year 5 pupils to sing at Vine House	am 2.00
Friday 13th December	EYFS (Dragonflies and Bumblebees) Christmas Stay and Play	8.40-10.00
Monday 16th December	KS2 Pantomime at MRC	9.15-12.30
Tuesday 17th December	Reception Class Tableau and Whole School Carol Service at St. Mary's Church	2.30
Wednesday 18th December	Volunteer Coffee Morning Fantastic Finish – Foxes and Otters	10.30 2.00
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Lunch and Parties	pm
Friday 20th December	House Charity Fundraiser - Christmas Jumper/Hat Day (£1) Last Day of Term	

A Word from the Head

Two weeks to go! Lots has been happening, including singing at Birch Tree House and for the lighting of the Tree of Hope and, earlier today, Dragonflies' trip to Chichester Festival Theatre! Somehow, we have to squeeze in yet more, including the KS1 play, singing at the Cowdray Pensioners Lunch and to the residents of Vine House, Paul Ullson's visit to Year 3 and 4, the carol service and Easebourne's Got Talent!

Social Media

Postings on a school-related facebook page have, apparently, recently referred to a child within the school community in a way that was perceived by others to have been negative. Though not specifically named, the child was identifiable and I would urge parents to refrain from using social media to reference others, particularly children, in a negative way. Thank you for your support in this.

Christmas Fair

Last week's fair was a huge success, raising significant funds for the school, and everybody seemed to enjoy it. These events don't run themselves but, as we all know, take a lot of preparation, time and effort. Our thanks go to the PTFA for masterminding last week's Christmas Fair and especially to Jo and Ruth for masterminding it.

Book Fair

Thanks to everybody who made purchases at the Book People fair recently. This raised £327 and the commission will be spent on books for classroom and the library which is fantastic.

Cowdray Weekend Tasting

Last Saturday, many of our children turned up to perform to shoppers enjoying the Cowdray Tasting Day and gave an early Christmas flavour to proceedings. Well done to all of them and to those children who turned up to pack bags inside the farm shop. Cowdray once again generously donated a hamper of £100 worth of goodies from the shop and raffle tickets were sold at the Christmas Fair and throughout the weekend. In all, this raised £544 for the school, which is fantastic. Thank you to all who supported the weekend.



Poetry by Heart (<http://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/>)

Following our autumn poetry recitation competition, we are now planning to take part in Poetry by Heart, a national competition open for the first time this year to KS2 pupils.

This term we have enjoyed more poetry than ever before. As well as the school's competition, Foxes Class recited poetry at Vine House and Badgers Class recited poetry at Birthday House. Now, for the next step!!

Over the Christmas holidays, we want any KS2 pupils (Rabbits to Otters) who want to take part to pick a poem from the two collections on the Poetry by Heart website: **Mix it up** or **Timeline Anthology 7+**. (We will, I hope, have given children the opportunity to have seen how to access these two anthologies.) Some of the poems have links to an audio file of them being read which really helps to bring them to life and we hope that they will start to learn them over the Christmas holiday.

Early next term, we plan to video the children reciting their poems. We will then send in a celebration of our poetry, along with an overall school winner who will go through to the County stage. (Children who learnt poems this term will also be invited to brush up their recitation and be recorded for posterity on video, though, if they want to compete in Poetry by Heart, they will also have to learn one of the official competition poems.)

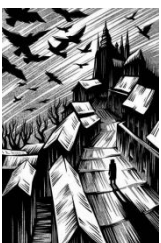


It would be wonderful if you could encourage your child, if they want to take part, by helping them choose and then learn their poem.

TIGHT WRITE

Congratulations to Tilly (Y1), Farryn (Y1), Scarlett (Y2) Elizabeth (Y4) and Emilia (4) for their winning entries for Tight Write 17.

Meanwhile, here's an interesting image for Tight Write 18. Entries must be in by 19th December at the latest.



One day a burglar was trying to get into a palace to get some treasure. It was seven o'clock at night in the winter. The person in the palace was asleep. The leaves blew off the trees and the black birds saw him coming. The person's shadow was deep. By Tilly, Year 1

Once there was an old abandoned town, next to a wood. There was an old dangerous castle that nobody dared to enter. One figure was left! He had a long shadow and was followed by black crows wherever he went. The castle was his home and nobody knew his name. By Scarlett, Year 2

TIGHT WRITE 18



Using no more than
50 WORDS
can you write about this image?

Named entries to Mr Culley
by Thursday, 19th December at the latest
Prizes to be won!

Debate

Last Friday, after school, we held our first debate of the academic year. The motion was this House believes that parents and carers should not allow children to be exposed to books, games or films that have age-ratings older than the children's ages. Arguing for the motion were Megan, Jem and Nate. Arguing against were Margot, Sian and Grace E.



Once an initial vote had been taken, a range of strong points were made by the speakers. Megan produced strong research evidence which linked emotional distress in young children to exposure to violent media. Margot countered by saying that parents and carers knew their children best. Nate explained how PEGI and the BBFC arrived at their ratings. He pointed out that the BBFC were very experienced at this task, having been in existence for over a hundred years! Grace made the case for a sensible parental approach, suggesting that parents should read the blurb or reviews, or even sample the film or game first before making up their mind about its suitability. Jem educated the audience, explaining how the game Fortnite (12) worked and urging parents to think twice before letting their children play it. Finally, Sian reminded us that ratings change over time and what today's children would be surprised by is how tame the films were that their parents had watched as children.



There were then questions from the floor which the children answered as teams before the two captains, Megan and Margot, summed up. In the second vote, there was a gain of three votes for Megan's team and the motion was carried. Well done to all six speakers. Three debates are scheduled for next term; 17th January, 7th February and 28th February. Please do come along and support these debates by joining the audience, voting and asking questions – it is a great experience for the children and having an interested audience makes a huge difference.

Fantastic Finish

Rabbits and Badgers

To celebrate the end of our topic on the Victorians, Rabbits and Badgers are coming together for a day of 'Victoriana'. In the morning we have Paul Ulson, a history specialist, coming in with Victorian Christmas activities. If they would like, the children are welcome to come dressed in the Victorian costumes that they wore to Petworth House. In the afternoon, we would like to invite our parents in for an afternoon tea and to share our work. If you would like to join us for elderflower cordial and a slice of Victoria sponge please come along at 2pm to enjoy the fun.

Foxes and Otters

Foxes and Otters look forward to welcoming parents and carers to their fantastic finish on Wednesday 18th December at 2pm. They would love you to join them in adding the finishing design touches to their space buggies, hear about some of their learning from this term and watch them race the buggies to see who has built the best one

Christmas Performance

Year 1 and 2 will be performing 'Superstar' on Tuesday 10th December at 2.00pm and Wednesday 11th December at 6.00pm. We will not be issuing tickets for these performances but please be sensible with numbers. Performers should arrive at 5.30pm for the evening performance in order to get ready.

KS2 to Pantomime at Midhurst Rother College

On Monday 16th December, Years 3-6 will be walking to Midhurst Rother College to enjoy a pantomime performed by the MRC Year 10 students. The children will return to school in time for lunch.

Carol Service and Reception Class Tableau

Our Carol Service is at St. Mary's Church on Tuesday 17th December at 2.30pm. Dragonflies Class will lead the nativity tableau and children from Years 1 to 6 will be performing songs they have been learning alongside traditional Christmas carols. Parents are invited to join us and participate in the service. **Children should be collected from the church.** Those attending Easebourne Owls after school club will be escorted back to school.



EYFS Christmas Stay and Play

Easebourne Foundation Stage (Bumble Bees & Dragonflies) will be holding their Christmas Stay & Play on Friday 13th December, 8.40-10am. Current parents & carers, of our children, are invited to come along & join in with our Christmas activities!

Christmas Lunch and Parties

The whole school will enjoy Christmas lunch together on Thursday 19th December. Chartwells will be supplying the lunch but there will be no charge to parents as school will pay and supply crackers. Children who have chosen not to have a cooked meal may bring in a packed lunch. Parties and Easebourne's Got Talent, will follow, so children will be permitted to change into home clothes just before lunch.

Christmas Jumper/Hat Day – House Charity Day

On the last day of term, children may come to school in a Christmas jumper or hat for a donation of £1.00. All money collected will go towards our House Charity Fundraising. Please don't feel you need to buy something new, a home decorated item could be just as much fun.

Starting School Reception September 2020

The deadline for applications for children starting school in September 2020 is Wednesday 15th January 2020.

Online Payments

Our online payment system is now up and running and will be used to ask for both permission and voluntary contributions for all trips and residentials. If you have signed up for clubs, it will also be used to ask for payments at the beginning of each term.

Parents will receive both a text and email at the same time asking for their contribution. The email will contain an attachment, which will provide details of the activity. Therefore, it will not be necessary for us to send out paper copies although these will be available from the office if required. Whilst online is our preferred method of payment, you can still able to make a payment via the school office. If you do not receive an email from schoolsmoney, please check your junk mail for correspondence.

We appreciate some families might find it difficult to contribute all or part of the suggested sum and if you feel that you are in such a position, please contact us in confidence to discuss this further. We would stress that if a family were unable to contribute, and the trip were still to proceed, no child within the class for whom the trip is intended will be disadvantaged and be left out of the activity.

Clubs

The club options for next term will be emailed to parents today. In the interest of fairness no forms will be accepted until Monday morning. Clubs will commence on Monday 13th January and finish on Friday 27th March. Clubs will not run on Parents' Evenings (Monday 24th and Thursday 27th February).

Cheques for Tennis Club should be made payable to Generation Tennis. For all other clubs you will be able to pay using the online payment system in the first week of the new term. We will still accept payment in the office and cheques should be made payable to Easebourne Primary School.

Pencil Cases

Please could we remind you of the need to keep pencil cases and their contents to a reasonable size and unadorned. This makes them less attractive to others and reduces the tendency to fiddle with moveable parts etc. Please bear this in mind over the Christmas period if you need to re stock any contents. Pencil cases should be checked on a fairly regular bases to ensure children have the necessary items.

Reverse Advent Calendar

As previously mentioned, we are taking part in the Reverse Advent Calendar initiative in aid of Stonepillow. Each day, on top of the shelves in the library, the next number will appear up to the end of the term. We hope that children might bring in something that would be useful to Stonepillow, the Chichester-based charity for the homeless. This year is slightly different as we are asking for specific items to be donated each day. This is purely voluntary and we will be grateful for a single day's donation or you could choose to participate for a week. The list showing each date and the suggested item was included in the last newsletter and it is also displayed on the foyer window and at the back of the school.

We will arrange for everything to be taken down to Stonepillow at the end of the term. I hope you will be able to help us build our own Stonepillow Supermarket Library. Thank You.

Midhurst Foodbank

Chichester District Foodbank is continuing the holiday lunchbox scheme over the Christmas holidays. This week we have sent out vouchers to all of our families who are entitled to Free School Meals. The voucher can be exchanged for food at the Foodbank in St. Ann's Hall, St. Ann's Hill, Midhurst.

If you are struggling to meet family pressures, please feel free to speak to Mr Culley who is able to supply vouchers when necessary.

Henry Adams

Just a reminder that the children have until the 12th December to hand in their drawing competition entries. Please ignore the date on the form as it is incorrect. We would hate for anyone to miss out!

House Update

	Green	Yellow	Blue	Red
Week 1 House Points	4	1	3	2
Week 2 and 3 House Points	4	1	4	4
Summer Reading Challenge	26	14	14	20
A-Z Space Challenge	3	5	9	6
Week 4 House Points	4	2	1	3
Week 5 House Points	3	1	4	3
Week 6 House Points	4	4	1	2
House Pumpkin Challenge	19	18	22	15
Week 7 House Points	4	2	4	1
Week 8 House Points	3	2	4	1
Week 9 House Points	3	4	1	3
Week 10 House Points	4	2	1	3
Half Term Reading Challenge	30	32	28	28
Poetry Competition	28	25	32	28
Week 11 House Points	2	4	3	1
Week 12 House Points	3	2	1	4
Week 13 House Points	4	2	2	3
Total	148	121	134	127



Early Days and Easebourne Owls



Early Days Nursery are seeking to recruit an Assistant Childcare Practitioner from January. This will be a temporary contract, from January to July, 23.75 hours/week. Full details can be found on the West Sussex Grid for Learning website (<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/jobs/school-jobs/>)

Early Days Nursery (Caterpillars & Ladybirds) will be holding their Christmas Stay & Play on Thursday 12th December, 8.40-10am.

Easebourne Foundation Stage (Bumble Bees & Dragonflies) will be holding their Christmas Stay & Play on Friday 13th December, 8.40-10am.

Current parents and carers, of our children, are invited to come along & join in with our Christmas activities!

Easebourne Foundation Stage
Bumble Bees (Early Days Nursery) &
Dragonflies (Reception Class)

Merry Christmas



Christmas Open Morning
8.40 – 10.00am
Friday 13th December

come & join us in our
Early Years learning environments

Christmas activities



EASEBOURNE PTFA NEWS

Firstly, we would like to welcome Vicky Barrett onto the PTFA Committee by becoming our Secretary. We now have Jo Purser and Ruth James as Joint Chair, Charlotte Hall as Treasurer and Vicky Barrett as Secretary.

Christmas Fair

On Friday 29th November, we held our School Christmas Fair and I would like to begin by saying a massive thank you to everyone who attended, supported and sent in donations. The turnout was incredible and the atmosphere was very festive. Another big thank you to everyone who helped out from Parents/Grandparents/Carers to Teachers/TA's and Staff, you were all stars and this event couldn't have happened without you. It takes a lot of organising, the best part of three months preparation went into a 2 ½ hour event but when you have the support of lots of other people it doesn't have to take up precious time which we all value with our families!! All the hard work was worth it to see the joy and happiness on all the children's faces. Well done to all of Year 6, the dedication and enthusiasm that went into all your stalls was fantastic. Overall, the Christmas Fair looks like it has raised a record amount, which will be confirmed next week. Some of the money raised will be buying much needed equipment for Forest School and we will let you know in due course what the remainder will go towards in the school.

Lastly, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Jo Purser.

Dates for your Diary

- * Wednesday 22nd January, from 7pm, our annual AGM & PTFA Meeting held in the conference room, everyone welcome.
- * Friday 6th March & Friday 15th May Film Night 3.15pm-5.30pm (films & times to be confirmed)
- * Thursday 2nd April Easter Egg Hunt during the school day (non-fundraising event)

We are looking into arranging a Pamper Evening during the spring term, if anyone would like to help in anyway or has any ideas please speak to Holly Heather via our email pta@easebourne.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Just to inform you, although this is not a school run club, there will be an opportunity in January to join a new Karate School held on our premises on Monday nights. See further details in their poster.