



EASEBOURNE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

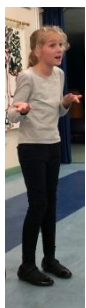
7th December 2018

Dates for the next 2 weeks

Tuesday 11th December	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance - Matinee	2.00
Wednesday 12th December	Parents' Mindfulness Talk Year 2-6	2.45-3.30
	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance - Evening	6.00
Thursday 13th December	Fantastic Finish – Rabbits and Badgers	2.30
Friday 14th December	Christmas Lunch and Parties (change of clothes)	
Monday 17th December	Fantastic Finish – Foxes and Otters	2.00
Tuesday 18th December	Volunteer Coffee Morning	10.45
	Reception Class Nativity Tableau and Whole School Carol Service at St. Mary's Church	2.30
Wednesday 19th December	House Charity Fundraiser - Christmas Jumper Day (£1.00)	
	Last Day of Term	

A Word from the Head

Better late than never, I thought you might like to see some of the photographs from our session with Steve Tasane after the poetry competition. You can see the overall winners, Nellie and Roberta, pictured with performance poets Geoff Allnutt and Steve Tasane, as well as tremendous delivery moments from Sian and Theo and impressive audience participation!



Hen Update

At the start of last week, our flock of hens increased significantly when we were given eight hens by Manuel Lopez-Rodriguez of Poppy's Poultry, Bepton. The hens were introduced when it was dark to help to acclimatise them to their new surroundings and smooth their introduction to Midnight and Ginger! Poppy's Poultry currently have just over 1100 laying hens, supplying to the whole of the Cowdray estate, cake shops in Chichester and Budgens, along with various village stores and outlets in Midhurst. The business is a relatively new concern and Manuel is keen to supply local outlets so would be very grateful if

anyone has ideas or contacts with people in the local area.



The new hens have settled in well. Manuel has offered to host a visit from our hen helpers in the spring term and has offered to 'talk hens' with them from time to time, passing on his knowledge and experience. Manuel has also offered to sell surplus eggs through the school at Reception, at the same price as our own (£2 per half-dozen), but donating 50p from each box so we are trialling having additional eggs for sale from Reception. Do remember to stock up when you are passing.



Mindfulness

Last week, parents attended a talk to hear about the mindfulness initiative for the spring term for Years 2-6. I was joined by Sandrine Cranswick, the mindfulness teacher who is working with the school next term. That session was in the early evening and several parents said that they would welcome a second opportunity to hear the presentation but just before pick-up. With this in mind, parents are invited to attend a slightly shorter second session from 2.45 to 3.30 on Wednesday, 12th December.

Volunteer Coffee Morning

We are very fortunate to have the support of so many members of the local community who give up their time to support the school. As a "Thank You" our volunteers are invited to attend a mince pie and coffee morning on Tuesday, 18th December at 10.45.

Meet the Teacher

In the autumn term, the current system of "Meet the Teacher" works well, with a good number of parents managing to attend a PowerPoint presentation that looks ahead to the school year and the Christmas term, in particular. However, the staff has discussed what sort of system might support home-school communication better in the spring and summer terms. The suggested way forward is twofold. Firstly, the class teachers will send out their PowerPoint presentation to all parents and carers so that they have a good understanding of the term ahead. This will be followed up by a longer 'open house' session (3.30-5.00) where parents are welcome to come in and discuss any of the points raised by the PowerPoint or additional issues that are concerning them at the time. We hope that this new arrangement will give parents the same amount of information as well as increased flexibility in timing and individual access to the teacher. Please note that these dates will be publicised in the next diary. If parents cannot make this timing, but have questions or concerns, they are welcome to contact the class teacher by email.

Our Reception Class will retain the existing system but will trial a new time of 2.30-3.15.

West Sussex Sumdog Competition

Class Results

Rabbits came a creditable 16th, Badgers came 34th, Otters came 36th and Hedgehogs came 71st across all participating classes across the county. Not enough children participated in Foxes or Squirrels for the classes to be entered onto the leader board.

House Results

Blue Sharks: 10 pts; Red Robins: 12 pts; Yellow Minions: 15 pts; and Green Grasshoppers X: 19 pts
Our new Sumdog Ninjas answered over 1,000 questions during this competition. Congratulations to all of the following new ninjas: Lucas, Morgan, Harrison C, Jessica, Isabella L, Henry N, Margot, Elizabeth, Sian, Tabitha, Bea, Harley, Jacob, Ava P, Ava R, Lily R, Natalia, Roberta, Harrison B, Henry G and Tula. This squad of children will compete in the national competition in the last week of term.

Our highest three places in the county competition went to Henry G (8th), with 987 correct answers out of 1,000, Jessica (45th) and Roberta (49th). Congratulations to all three.

Spelling Bee

Congratulations to all those who took part in this term's Spelling Bee. It was a hard fought contest. The winners and overall winners are listed below.

	Winner	Overall Winner
Year 1	Alex	
Year 2	Kiara	KS1
Year 3	Ruby	
Year 4	Elijah	Lower KS2
Year 5	Izzy P	Upper KS2
Year 6	Theo W	

Sumdog

Our new Sumdog Ninjas will be competing in their national contest, which will begin on Friday 14th November at 8am and run until Thursday 20th November at 8pm. After the success of the House Competition last week, we look forward to seeing how well they do. Good luck to you all!

Reverse Advent Calendar

Once again we are taking part in the Reverse Advent Calendar initiative in aid of Stonepillow, but with a twist this year. Our Big Sleepout Team raised over £1,300 for the charity earlier in the term but now, with this event, everybody can take part. Each day, on top of the shelves in the library, the next number will appear for each day in Advent 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. You can find out what would be helpful by visiting Stonepillow's wish list at <https://stonepillow.org.uk/wish-list/>, but please avoid liquids (washing-up liquid, handwash, fruit juice, etc.), sticky stuff which could leak (e.g. sugar) and chemicals (e.g. washing-powder)! If everybody joined in, our library would look like a supermarket by the end of term which would be unusual but fantastic. We will then 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.

Henry Adams Christmas Hat Competition

In assembly this week, Francis Martin from Henry Adams Estate Agency came in to award prizes to the winners of the Design a Christmas Hat Competition. Francis was impressed with the quality and range of the entries and after much deliberation the winners were: Oscar (YrR), Rosie (Yr1), Ivy (Yr2), Billy (Yr3), Ava (Yr4), Nicholas (Yr5), Adam (Yr6) and the overall winner was Alais (Yr1)

Clubs

The new clubs' list for the Spring term was emailed to you today and in the interest of fairness no forms will be accepted until Monday morning. Please ensure forms are returned to the office by 9.00am on Friday 14th December at the latest. When the closing date for applications has been reached we will allocate all 1st choices where possible and then allocate 2nd choices etc. until a club reaches capacity.

Christmas Performance

Year 1 and 2 will be performing 'Christmas with the Aliens' on Tuesday 11th December at 2.00pm and Wednesday 12th December at 6.00pm. Performers should arrive at 5.45pm for the evening performance in order to get ready.

Fantastic Finish

On Thursday 13th December from 2.30pm parents are invited to join Rabbits and Badgers Class for their Fantastic Finish. We will have had a visit from Paul Ullson during which the children will have prepared for battle. Parents and Carers are invited to watch the event. Children will also share observational drawings and Ogham writing.

The Fantastic Finish for Foxes and Otters Class will be on Monday 17th December from 2pm.

Christmas Lunch and Parties

The whole school will enjoy Christmas lunch together on Friday 14th December. Chartwells will be supplying the lunch at no charge to parents as school will pay and supply crackers. Some children have opted to 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.

Carol Service and Reception Class Tableau

Our Carol Service is at St. Mary's Church on Tuesday 18th 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.

Please make sure your child has a coat in school as we will be walking to the church. Children will be picked up by parents from the church at 3.15 after the service. Those attending Easebourne Owls after school club will be brought back to school. For those children who are having a packed lunch, please could we ask you to provide a disposable meal in a named plastic bag. **We will need some parent/volunteers to help escort the children down the road, if you can assist please let us know.**

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 would be just as fun.

Starting School Reception September 2019 (Deadline Tuesday 15th January 2019)

If your child was born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 they can start school in September 2019. From Monday 1st October 2018 to Tuesday 15th January 2019, you can apply online on the pupil Admissions Application website at www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions. Once you have submitted your online application you will receive an automatic email acknowledgement confirming that your email has been received. Free internet access to apply online is available at all West Sussex libraries and Children and Family Centres for parents who do not have access to a computer. Paper forms will only be issued to parents on request by phoning 0333 0142903 and forms need to be sent back to the Pupil Admissions Team by recorded delivery. 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 16th April 2019. Other applicants will be sent a letter by second class post, posted on 16th April.

House Update

	Green	Yellow	Blue	Red
Summer Reading Challenge	17	14	9	15
Who Am I? (100% Correct)	0	4	3	3
Who Am I? (House Totals)	1	10	4	7
Week 1 House Points	4	2	1	3
Maths Challenge	1			
Week 2 House Points	2	4	3	2
Week 3 House Points	1	4	3	3
Week 4 House Points	2	4	3	1
Week 5 House Points	2	4	3	1
Week 6 House Points	3	2	4	1
Pumpkin Carving Competition	19	11	21	11
Week 7 House Points	2	4	2	3
Week 8 House Points	4	3	3	1
Week 9 House Points	1	4	3	1
Half Term Reading Challenge	17	20	24	15
Poetry Competition	26	23	29	22
Week 10 House Points	2	4	3	2
Week 11 House Points	1	4	3	3
Week 12 House Points	3	4	1	2
Sumdog House Competition	19	15	10	12
Week 13 House Points	2	4	1	3
Total	129	144	133	111

EASEBOURNE PTFA NEWS

Christmas Card Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who purchased their children's Christmas Cards and mugs this year. The project raised a considerable sum of £366.50 for the school, which is the most ever raised from this project to date.

Happy Bag Collection

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Happy Bag fundraiser. The bags were collected this morning and we raised a fantastic £311.70.

Christmas Fair

On Friday 30th November, we held our School Christmas Fair and I would firstly just like to say a massive thank you to everyone who attended, supported, donated and helped out in the run up to this event. The turnout was incredible and the atmosphere was very festive. Another big thank you to everyone who helped out on the night from Parents/Grandparents/Carers to teaching and non-teaching staff and students, you were all stars and this event couldn't have happened without you. It takes a lot of organising, the best part of 3 months preparation went into this 2 ½ hour event but when you have support from lots of other people it doesn't have to take up precious time which we all value with our families!!! 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 your stalls was fantastic. Overall the Christmas Fair managed to raise an outstanding amount of £2,355 and we will let you know in due course what this 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 to remember

* Thursday 24th January, PTFA Meeting & AGM, everyone welcome.

* Film Night 8th March, 3.15pm-5.30pm, film to be confirmed

COMMUNITY NEWS

Midhurst Foodbank (from Chrissie Abbott)

As we near Christmas, the pressure on family budgets grows, so I wanted to remind all parents that I hold vouchers from Midhurst Foodbank Centre that can be "converted" into the free supply of food.

Any parent who is struggling to meet family pressures should just see me or, at the school, Johnny Culley or the office staff and we can then provide you with a voucher. We do this in confidence.

The voucher can then be exchanged for food at the Foodbank in St. Ann's Hall, St. Ann's Hill, Midhurst (just off the central Market Square - behind Gartons coffee shop). The Foodbank is open every Friday afternoon from 3.00pm to 5.00pm. The advantage of going there is that they can also supply toiletries and pet food, and can signpost to other support services and grants.

However, if it is difficult for anyone to get there, or if the need is urgent, the Foodbank Centre do provide a 24/7 mobile delivery service. The phone number is: 07836-397732.

The Foodbank will again be providing its lunchboxes in lieu of free school meals during the Christmas holidays.