

Easebourne C.E. Primary Newsletter

In a safe, loving environment built on the strong Christian values of **faith**, **hope** and **love**, we want our children to **ACHIEVE**, to **BUILD** and to **CONNECT**



1st April 2022

A WORD FROM THE HEAD

I'm sure more will be said elsewhere about the Year 5/6 residential on the Isle of Wight, but I just wanted to say what a great experience I thought it was for our oldest children. To keep costs more manageable, we left on Sunday. Despite it being the weekend, all 60 children were not only dropped off on time, but also picked up punctually – thank you, parents and carers! The organisation by Mr T was fantastic and the dedication of the staff team was, as ever, truly remarkable.



It is hard to convey just how hard the staff work on a residential. They are on call from the moment they wake up until the last cabin is settled, they administer endless medicines, liaise with parents and deal with a whole range of issues from homesickness and concerns about food to anxiety about activities and trips to A & E in the early hours of the morning. On top of all that, on the perfect residential, staff participate alongside the children, whether that means squeezing through the Washing Machine, jumping off the Trapeze, climbing the Vertical Challenge or canoeing in the sea. So, on behalf of all of the Foxes and Otters, I would like to say a huge thank-you to Andy Taylor, Becci Parker, Cindy Pilcher and Chris Haines – you were awesome and it was a privilege to be there!

To find out about the pictures, find the Community Box elsewhere in the newsletter!



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



On Thursday, Derek told us all the story of the prodigal son, though in our version it was the prodigal daughter (brilliantly played by Star!). We saw how annoyed and jealous Max G (her brother) felt when she returned, having spent all of her share of the family money, only to be warmly welcomed by her mother (Ivy). Derek explained that this is how God will be, waiting to welcome us back and forgive us when we realise we have done wrong.

FORTHCOMING

DATES:

- 05.04.22 1.30pm Matinee Performance Year 4
- 06.04.22 6pm Evening Performance Year 4
- 07.04.22 Easter Service at St. Mary's (School only)
- 08.04.22 YR Stay and Play
- 08.04.22 Last day of term

KEY DATES

- 25.04.22 First day back
- 22.05.22 Circus Visit to School
- 23.05.22 Circus Workshop
- 06.06.22 Inset Day

NEWS STORY



On Friday 25th March our dance club of Y5 and Y6 children performed at the Rother Valley Arts Festival at MRC. Our dance was to the song 'Rainbow' by Sia which has hopeful lyrics describing how if we persevere the sun will come out again.



It was a fantastic experience to dance on the MRC stage in front of an audience in the MRC theatre and the dancers made everyone watching very proud.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Many of you will know that the school has a fantastic ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) in Shirley Manning and a second ELSA, Louise Ashcroft, being trained. These colleagues have weekly sessions with a range of children who, for one reason or another, benefit from work on feelings and emotions.

A year ago, Shirley contacted 'Knit-for-Nowt', a charitable service which collects knitted, crocheted, or sewn hand puppets and 'worry monsters', which are used by therapists to help children. Recently, Shirley reached the top of the queue, and was delighted to receive two knitted puppet families, a set of knitted 'professionals', some finger puppets and some worry monsters, knitted by Jenny in Bucks and Monica in Dorset. Thank you, Jenny, Monica and Knit-for-Nowt!

NURSERY AND EYFS

So Spring has sprung! Caterpillars have been hand printing flowers. Ladybirds have finished their 'Hungry Caterpillar' display, talking about the life cycle and eating healthy foods. Bumble Bees have painted flowers to display on the garden fence. The children have enjoyed cooking in the mud kitchen,



This week, Dragonflies have continued to learn about new life, we watched a video of a chick hatching from it's egg and we went down to the playground to see our school chickens. Afterwards, we went to the office, so that Mrs Catchpole could buy some of our chicken eggs. We hope to make some cakes with them towards the end of the week.

"I'm making a worm pie", "we need eggs and butter for cake don't we?"

"One of them is small!" - Archie

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Rights Respecting Ambassadors met under the canopy yesterday for a bracing meeting at lunchtime – it was freezing!!

We discussed our next steps. The immediate plan is to invite all children to design, over Easter, an A4 portrait poster to illustrate one of the Articles in the UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child). Winning entries will be blown up to A2 and be displayed as posters in the school. Family members are welcome to join in!

Think bright, simple and colourful! Children can remind themselves of the Articles on the Internet – there are some lovely child-friendly versions of the UNCRC available (see below).

KS1

Hedgehogs - This week in RE we have continued to focus on the Easter Story. We discussed what pupils find happy and sad about the story of Easter. We looked at a colour chart and discussed which made us feel happy and which colours made us feel sad. We used a template of a cross on a plain piece of white paper and used paint to create an outline so when the template was lifted off there's a blank cross surrounded by colour. Each child made crosses in 'happy colours' and crosses in 'sad colours'.

The children then ordered the Easter story and drew emojis for angry, excited, surprised, worried, scared, happy, sad to describe each part of the story together with a sentence to say what was happening in the picture.



Squirrels - On Monday, we walked to St Mary's to visit Derek and talk about signs of Easter in the church. The first thing that we noticed was that there were no flowers. Derek said that during Lent the only time there are flowers is on Mothering Sunday. Flowers are then reintroduced on Easter Sunday as a "burst of colour and happiness". The most obvious Easter symbol in church is a large sculpture of The Last Supper. Squirrels were able to identify the scene and talk about it. They had fun discussing which figure could be Judas and why!



"We painted easter crosses in different colours to show when the story was happy or sad". Layla

"I think that the man on the end is Judas because he looks like he's up to something!" Freddie



KS2

Rabbits - This week we have been looking forward to Friday and PE! It has been a tough week of assessments and we are all tired from trying our absolute best everyday and Mrs Coates is very proud of us. We finished our class book 'Julia and the Shark', which we all really enjoyed. We went back to our initial predictions to see which of us were correct about the outcome no-one was exactly right but we all made good predictions. We enjoyed the story because it had incredible illustrations that complemented the story and it's all about courage, compassion and understanding of each other and the circumstances that we all face. There is some wellbeing that is explored in this book and we found it really interesting and helpful to talk about this as a class.

Badgers D - It has been an absolute delight to see 4D in play rehearsals this week for 'What a Knight!' I am sure they would agree that it would be a welcome break from their end of term assessments! So many children have been working hard on practising their lines at home, getting themselves 'into character' and learning their stage cues. I am really excited about our school dress rehearsal on Monday afternoon, followed by our family matinee and evening performances. Please support children with further practise and acting advice this weekend, so that we can make it a knight to remember!!

Badgers 4H enjoyed their last Forest Session this week. They built dens, created art using natural woodland materials and enjoyed cooking donuts on the open fire with Natalie. Thank you so much to our parent helpers – we couldn't do it without you. We've also been busy putting the finishing touches to our play and can't wait to share it with you all next week.

Have a great weekend, everybody!

Johnny Curley



TIGHT WRITE #59

This week, I was delighted to be given a pile of Tight Write entries written at home by children in Year 2. They were all wonderful to read, but I picked out seven winners that particularly appealed to me from Benjamin, Rory, Arthur, Theadora, Alba, Bertie and Eliza.

There isn't room for them all, but here is Benjamin's:

"Look these dinosaur eggs look so realistic!" said Jim.

"So does the parasaurolophus!" cried Johnny.

"I love coming to the museum."

Suddenly, the lights went out, the eggs started to shake and a small crack appeared...

