



EASEBOURNE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

20th November, 2020

Dates for the next 2 weeks

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Friday 4 th December | Book Club (Year 6) | 3.15-4.15 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|

A Word from the Head

Easyfundraising - In these strange times, the school is incurring additional expense at the very time that the PTFA is unable to run the range of events it would normally be organising. Obvious significant casualties have been the Summer Fair and Fairies & Scaries.

One fundraising possibility that could help provide much-needed funds for the school is easyfundraising, especially with Christmas coming up and families using online shopping more than ever. It costs nothing to use and yet every purchase within the scheme could generate money for the school. Victoria Barrett, on behalf of the PTFA, has printed off information slips, which will be in your child's book bag shortly. She has also got a stonking 137 parents to sign up already which is great, but we do have 222 children so, clearly, there is some way to go and, of course, there is no reason why grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbours and friends can't support the school each time they shop if they are not supporting anybody else.

Each of your online purchases can generate a little money for the school but we all know that this sort of system only reaches its potential if everybody remembers to use it. Victoria recommends downloading the reminder app to help with this: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/donation-reminder/>. Please support us with this and spread the word. We will let you the school community know how we are doing by sharing key milestones that we have passed. We've raised £17.50 to date so the first milestone is £25! Thank you in advance.

Greenfingers - A huge 'Thank You' to Katherine Bishop for all her hard work in bringing the front flower bed under control. It is now looking so much tidier and we are very grateful. My thanks also to Mary Cooper for planting out the containers; they provide a lovely splash of colour as you approach the school. House points have been awarded accordingly!

Christmas Cards

All classes will be able to bring in Christmas Cards to give to their friends. The Christmas Post Box in the front foyer will not be in operation. Cards should be taken into class and placed in the relevant collection box from 1st December - 11th December. The contents of each box will be sorted and distributed the following week having been subject to a 72-hour quarantine. In order to observe current restrictions, cards **will not** be accepted after the 11th December deadline.

Christmas Kindness - Reverse Advent Calendar

Many of you will remember that we have run a reverse Advent calendar in previous years. Instead of (or as well as) eating a piece of chocolate to mark the days that lead up to Christmas, the idea is to put aside an item each day to donate to charity. Times are tough for many of our families at present, but life is particularly difficult for the homeless and we have traditionally given our reverse Advent calendar proceeds to Stonepillow, a charity that supports the homeless in the Chichester and Bognor Regis areas.

The idea is that families donate items of food, i.e. canned goods, coffee, sugar, biscuits, squash, condiments etc. during the last few weeks of the term, starting from December 1st. Other items

normally on the charity's wish list include toilet roll, bin bags, kitchen foil, cling film, sponges, cloths and socks.

The supermarket trolley will be outside the school to take donations and items will be photographed and pictured on the front of our website so that the school community can see how our collection is progressing during the 18 days before we break up for Christmas.

Remembrance Day

On Remembrance Day, Otters, our oldest class, joined Derek and the churchwardens at the war memorial outside St Mary's Church to mark the occasion. Our School Council Chair, Charlie H, laid a wreath and Nate read a poem after Derek had read the names from the memorial and led us in prayer.

The remainder of the school, with the exception of Dragonflies, stood outside the front of the building at 11 o'clock to observe a 2-minute silence. I hope parents were able to appreciate the effort the classes had gone to, decorating their class windows and display boards.



Children In Need

Thank you for helping support Children in Need. Altogether we managed to raise in excess of £650.00. A special congratulations to Foxes Class who, so far, have raised over £350 by taking part in a Sponsored Silence. Well done! Please could any remaining sponsorship money be handed in on Monday. Thank You.



Rights Respecting Schools Ambassadors

This week saw the formation of a new group of children, our RRS Ambassadors. Following a couple of assemblies which touched on human rights, these older children responded to an invitation to apply to become Rights Respecting Schools Ambassadors. I had anticipated a group of 6-7 children but, in the end, there were far more applications than expected and, despite sifting and resifting the applications, there were still 14 children at our first meeting this week!



Our RRS Ambassadors are

Elijah (Y6)
Harriet (Y6)

Bea (Y5)
Billy G (Y5)
Dulcie (Y5)
Elizabeth (Y5)
Lilly Marie (Y5)
Marcus (Y5)
Ollie (Y5)

Alisha (Y4)
Mehmet (Y4)
Miller (Y4)
Nellie (Y4)

Matilda (Y3)

At our first meeting, we looked through the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, or UNCRC, and picked out and discussed articles that we found interesting.

We started the week wearing odd socks in support of Anti-Bullying Week (see Y3D inset). Our RRS Ambassadors reflected and agreed that bullying takes place in all schools at some point. They wanted to ensure that all children in school were well supported when it did happen. They also reviewed some of the data from the UNICEF RRS survey, which 180 children from YR1–YR6 had completed. There were some results which the RRS Ambassadors felt they wanted to tackle immediately, such as 62% of children reporting that they learnt about their rights at school with 17% saying that this was only sometimes the case. With it being Anti-Bullying Week, it was agreed that they would work together to produce an anti-bullying booklet for everybody in the school. That, therefore, is our first project and we will be meeting weekly while we work on this.



The week ended with World Children's Day and Elijah and Harriet our two Lead RRS Ambassadors spoke briefly, in our Celebration Assembly, to tell the school what the Ambassadors were all about.

Wellies

As you know, we ask that every child has a pair of wellies in school so that they can go outside in a wide range of weathers and enjoy the grass more often, despite the changing seasons. With such a strange and restrictive year, some children have understandably not got a pair of wellies that fit at school.

- If your child has an old pair of wellies at school, we ask that either you get your child to bring these home or you donate them to the school, if you don't want them. The latter would mean that there are spare pairs in a range of sizes for children who need a pair on a particular day.
- If your child does not have any wellies at school that fit, we ask that you purchase a pair and name both wellies clearly before sending them in with your child.

Blue Peter

Finally, we have been contacted by Blue Peter about the launch of [Blue Peter on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter) at CBBC.

Blue Peter is the longest running kids TV show in the world and we are uploading videos to it that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. We have world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how tos, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. We also feature ways of getting a Blue Peter badge, behind the scenes footage and extra content about our incredible presenters Adam, Lindsey, Mwaksy, Richie and Henry the Blue Peter dog.



If you think your pupils would be interested in this, please do send this out to your parents and ask them to subscribe to <https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter> - (it's obviously completely free to subscribe!) and don't forget to watch the live programme on CBBC at 5.30pm every week, or on BBC iPlayer.

Thanks so much for your time,

The Blue Peter Team!

Scholastic Book Club

Please remember the deadline for orders from the catalogue that was sent home with your last Newsletter is Friday 27th November.

Individual School Photographs

Please note, the deadline has now passed for ordering your child's photograph.

Recycling

Although we all appreciate the value of recycling, could we request, during the Covid period, that our usual collection items of bottle tops and crisps packets are stored at home, if you have room, rather than brought in to school. We will of course let you know when we feel it is safe enough for them to be sent in, sorted through and dispatched to their relevant destinations. Thank you.

TIGHT WRITE 39

Congratulations to the winners of Tight Write 37.

Oscar Year 1 Lucien Year 3H

Florence Year 4 Kiara Year 4

Apologies for the confusion, the deadline for Tight Write 38 is Monday 23rd November.

Using no more than

50 WORDS

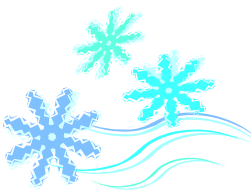
can you write about this image?

Named entries in to Mr Culley by

Thursday 3rd December at the latest



Procedures in the event of school closure due to inclement weather



The decision to close the school in the event of inclement weather is not taken lightly and is based on the safety of both pupils and staff, some of whom have to travel quite a considerable distance.

Should we have to close at any point during the winter months, we will endeavour to make a decision by 7.30am and the closure will be posted on the school's website at: <http://www.easebourne.w-sussex.sch.uk> Closures will also be posted on the West Sussex County Council website at: <http://www.westsussex.gov.uk> we will also send a text message to parents.

There may be circumstances when the decision is taken to close during the school day due to rapidly changing weather conditions. In these cases parents will be sent a text message. A member of staff will remain at the school with the children until the last child has been collected.

Given that information about school closure is communicated by text please ensure that you inform the school office of any changes to your number. If the school is open and your child is unable to get in, please notify the office by 9.00am leaving a message on the absence line. After-school clubs will be cancelled if the weather conditions are poor. Children should wear appropriate clothing for the conditions, including waterproof footwear to go out to play i.e. wellington or snow boots and a change of footwear for class. A coat, hat, a pair of gloves and a change of socks would also be advisable.

House Update

| | Green | Yellow | Blue | Red |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|------|-----|
| Week 1 and 2 House Points | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Week 3 House Points | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Week 4 House Points | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Week 5 House Points | 1 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| Summer Reading Challenge | 3 | | 1 | 4 |
| Week 6 House Points | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Week 7 House Points | 1 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| Poetry Competition | 21 | 25 | 24 | 20 |
| Week 8 House Points | 4 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Week 9 House Points | 4 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Week 10 House Points | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Total | 48 | 53 | 55 | 38 |

House Update

Our House Captains have now decided upon their house names for this year and the charities each house will be supporting –

Red Rattlesnakes; British Heart Foundation

Blue Baboons; Battersea Cats and Dogs

Yellow Lions; Dogs Trust

Green Beans; Macmillan Cancer Trust

EASEBOURNE PTFA NEWS

A big THANK YOU



Thank you to everyone who donated unwanted clothing to the Bag2School fundraiser. **We raised £141 for our 470kg mountain of clothes!** Bag2School is working with WRAP (Waste & Resources Action Programme) through the SCAP (Sustainable Clothing Action Plan) group for reuse and recycling and is a signatory to the 2020 commitment to reduce the environmental impact of clothing. **In total this year you've helped us collect 1 tonne and 230kg of clothes which will all be recycled or reused and that has helped us raise a grand total of £445!** That's amazing!



Another thank you to those parents and carers who have signed up to Easyfundraising. We now have 137 parents signed up which is awesome! However, **the tricky part is remembering to use it!** To make it easier **download the reminder app** <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/donation-reminder/>. Let's set ourselves a challenge to raise as much as we can for Easebourne Primary School this Christmas. Thank you!

Sadly, no one has yet stepped forwards to to be our treasurer.

It is NOT a time consuming role, but you do need to be organised as you will need to:

- Run monthly bank reconciliation
- Issue cheques to suppliers and to school
- Organise floats for events, collect, count and bank monies raised
- Keep the PTA up to date with current bank balances and committed spend



The PTFA can't legally run without one, so please could a lovely mum or dad step forward.

Interested? Please contact ruthhedgehog@hotmail.com

Many thanks for all you support.

Ruth, Jo, Victoria, SJ & Fiona