



Issue 3

November

2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to our November Newsletter.

In our assemblies this month, we have focused on our Core Value, 'Being Motivated'. In the assemblies, we have reflected on and shared what motivates and inspires the children and discussed times when they have been tempted to give up on something that they really wanted to achieve. Additionally, I emphasised to the children how having motivation, determination and courage can help them achieve all that they can and be the best that they can be.

Furthermore, the school have been treated to two fantastic sharing assemblies, those of 5 Pine and 3 Ash today. The quality of work shown at these assemblies was incredible and it is clear to see that the children are enthusiastic about their learning. My thanks to the staff and children of those classes!

On Wednesday 8th November, the whole school joined to remember people who died in World War I and conflicts since the Great War. During the Remembrance Assembly, the children learnt why the poppy is so significant and all those assembled fell silent for one minute. A very moving occasion. Additionally, the school raised £450.48 for the Poppy Appeal. An incredible amount of money! My thanks to you.

Last week our lessons and assemblies focused on the work of local and national government as it was Parliament Week. On Monday 13th November, my assembly focused on the work of the national government and I read out a letter that we received from the Prime Minister's Press Secretary. Theresa May was unable to attend our school during the week but sent her wishes for our Parliament Week. On Thursday 16th November, the Emmbrook Ward councillor, Imogen Shepherd-DuBey, visited the school to field questions from the children and explained her role as a councillor. Check out this week's article in the Wokingham Paper! On Friday 17th November, we held a school 'Question Time', hosted by our very own David Dimpleby, Miss Brown, and the panel included Mr Hunter and Mrs Longbottom, two governors and Mr Thomas and myself. The questions ranged from 'Where does the school get its money?' to 'What would you improve at the school?' Some of the questions were very tricky! My thanks to the staff, particularly Mrs McAllister, for arranging such fantastic week!

Last Friday, the children all arrived at school looking very spotty! Of course, this was for a very good cause, Children in Need. In my assembly, the children learnt about the history of the charity and where their £308 donation will go. Well done to you all! Pudsey will be proud.

It has been a fantastic month and I am really looking forward to the months ahead. I hope you and your families have a brilliant weekend!

My best wishes,
Mr Rob Fenton

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

The attendance figures for October have been collated. We are pleased to confirm the three classes with the highest attendance this month:

1st—3 Ash 98.5%
2nd—4 Elm 98.3%
3rd—6 Beech 98.2%

Well done to all of the children for their brilliant attendance.

PTA 100 CLUB WINNERS

We are pleased to announce November's PTA 100 club winners:

1st—E Mansfield (56)
2nd— I Hooker (104)
3rd—A Payne (52)

Winners for December will be announced in next month's newsletter.

THANK YOU!



We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for their tremendous fund raising over the last few weeks. We have been informed by the Royal British Legion that we donated an enormous £450 to their poppy appeal this year. We then collected over £300 in donations for Children In Need. This is the most we have ever raised for both of these charities. Thank you so much for your generosity. We know that your donations will be put to very good use.



Roots to Grow Wings to Fly

CURRICULUM NEWS by Mr Fenton

Year 3 have had an exciting few weeks. They enjoyed their trip to the Reading Museum, where the children were able to handle a variety of Stone Age objects, investigate stone and Bronze Age habits and create a Bronze Age house. Everyone on the trip said how well the children had behaved, making me a very proud Head Teacher - well done year 3. On 14th November we held an open classroom event, where the children had the opportunity to show off all of their fantastic work and share their knowledge about Stonehenge with their families. In between all of these exciting activities the children have been studying rocks and soil and practising their ICT skills by transferring their non-chronological reports into exciting multi-media presentations.



In maths, the year 4 children have been enjoying the challenge of creating shapes with a given perimeter. They are now learning how the perimeter of a rectangle can be calculated due to its properties. In English lessons, the children have been researching butterflies, writing reports, learning new technical language as well as improving their spelling. Did you know butterflies have tongues which are as long as their bodies! Topic has seen the children learning about the hard life of a Roman soldier and writing imaginary letters home to their families. On top

of all of this, the children have been busy rehearsing for the Christmas production, the songs sound fantastic, and I think we are in for a real treat.

Year 5 children have been studying Ancient Egypt and writing newspaper reports about Tutankhamen's death! They have been making mummies and drawing pictures of the Nile in the style of the time. Next week, the children will travel to the British Museum to further their understanding of this fascinating time. Reasoning and problem solving tasks have been taking place in maths where the children have been looking at factor pairs, prime, square and cubed numbers.



Our year 6 children have been on a special mission! Mr Thomas and Mrs Preston selected class spies to go on a secret mission. One of the spies had to knock on my door, pretend he had been misbehaving in class and retrieve an envelope marked 'confidential' that was planted on my desk. Little did he know that I was in on the ruse. I must have been quite scary as despite my best efforts to look away and give him an opportunity to take the envelope it remained on my desk! The classes are now in hot competition to see who can write the best spy

story. The children have also been getting to grips with fractions (and hopefully finding it easier than the 'dreaded' long division).

CAUGHT DOING THE RIGHT THING by Mrs Freeman

Well done to all of the children who received a 'Caught Doing The Right Thing' voucher this month:

Hummingbirds:

Kacey Howells, Hannah Needham, Kapish Mahara, Lara Clinch, Eddie Austin x2, Ozzy Ferguson x3, Lauren Joseph, Ben Preston x2, Sophie Dowse, Sonny Jones.

Redstarts:

Eddie Vickers, Olivia Froggatt x2, Ryan Doyle x2, George Graham, Ellie Thompson x2, Daniel Visgandis.

Golden Eagles:

Troy Dolton, Meryn Smith-Browne, James Nash x3, Max Woodhead, Wilfred Grundy-Kelly, Evan Saynor, Ethan Undrell, Harry Spratt, James Foote x2, Eddie Newman x2, Florence Grundy-Kelly, Alfie Fletcher, Yammen El-Khateeb, Sophia Tomlinson, Jake Marsh.

Kingfishers:

Leo Standing x2, Daniel Evans, Ethan Yates, Sophie McCulloch, Henry Nash, Angharad Jones, Nicole Hambleton, Marcus Derrick x2.

MATHS PROBLEM by Mr Thomas

For Thought

Do the four calculations in the thought clouds then add your answers together.

256 young people are going on a day trip. Each bus will take up to 40 people. How many buses are needed?

Today Sassy spent £39 and yesterday she spent £60. What is the difference between 39 and 60?

34 dancers raise £30 each at a sponsored dance. How much money was raised all together?

If Sissy weighs 98 pounds, Sassy weighs 109 pounds and Elvis weighs 105 pounds; What is their combined weight?

Roots to Grow Wings to Fly

SPORTS NEWS by Mr Fisher

It has been an incredibly busy month! In PE, the children have been doing football and tag rugby. All of the children have been playing house matches in an Intra Tournament in all year groups. Hummingbirds were the winners with 8 wins out of 12. We will be finishing the term with netball. In the spring term, the school will run a netball club and we hope this will build up interest in the sport.

The boys' football team played their last 2 league matches this month against Westende Junior and Keephatch Primary. Both games ended in a draw. The games were tricky due to large pitches and sticky conditions; however, all teams performed brilliantly and tested each other.

Our girls football team had their first football match of the season against The Coombes and came out on top with a 5 - 1 win. The girls performed well and played some wonderful passing football. Chloe scored 2 goals, with Tamia and an own goal giving us a commanding lead of 4 - 0. In the second half, Lois increased our lead to 5 - 0 before The Coombes scored a goal of their own. Our team held out until the end and were dominant in possession. Our keeper only had to make one other save during the whole game. Player of the Match went to Frankie, who was a stalwart in defense and tackled every player. Lauren also played well in midfield and she is only in Year 4! Well done to the other girls, Charlotte, Nadia and Brooke for also playing their best and competing all over the pitch.

The Six Nations tag rugby tournaments started this month, our first being played at Highwood Primary. It's fair to say we couldn't have asked for a better start as we won all 5 games. We therefore finished top of the group with the best defense and the most tries. Sonny and Joey both scored tries in double figures, including a hat trick for Joey. The second round was played here at Emmbrook Junior school and the whole afternoon ran smoothly. We received some lovely comments from the other schools' parents regarding how polite our children were when greeting everyone. A big thank you to the PTA for providing tea, coffee and cakes. This was well received by other parents and teachers. As far as the tournament went, we AGAIN came out on top and won 4 of the 5 games, drawing the other. This afternoon we are off to Danesfield Primary school where we are looking for another win.



Roots to Grow Wings to Fly

SPORTS NEWS continued

On Friday we have our last Cross Country race of 2017 at the prestigious Ludgrove School in Wokingham. Some of you may know that this is the school that Prince William and Prince Harry attended. Emmbrook is part of the hosting team along with two other schools. Fingers crossed it runs smoothly and our children once again do us proud and compete all the way.

As for the remainder of the term, we have only one more rugby tournament and an indoor athletics competition. We are also hoping to squeeze some friendly football matches in if time allows, to ensure all the children have the opportunity to represent the school and playing competitive sport.



Roots to Grow Wings to Fly



LETTERS SENT THIS MONTH

- 3rd Nov - Year 3 Stonehenge Classroom Opening
- 6th Nov - Safeguarding Policy
- 7th Nov - Christmas Lunch
- 8th Nov - Christmas Fair Competition
- 8th Nov - Christmas Fair
- 9th Nov - Safeguarding Policy
- 9th Nov - Children In Need
- 9th Nov - Year 5 Trip Letter
- 10th Nov - 3 Larch Arrangements
- 10th Nov - 5 Maple Arrangements
- 13th Nov - Parents' Evening
- 13th Nov - Request for Monitors
- 17th Nov - Evacuation Procedure
- 24th Nov - Appointment of a new Assistant Head Teacher
- 24th Nov - Year 6 Class Arrangements
- 24th Nov - Gate Timings

REMINDERS

- Year 5 Trip - 29th Nov
- Open Morning For Prospective Parents - 30th Nov
- Last Week Of Clubs - w/c 4th Dec
- Parents' Evening (5.00pm to 8.00pm) - 5th Dec
- Parents' Evening (3.30pm to 6.00pm) - 6th Dec
- PTA Christmas Fair At EIS (3.30pm) - 8th Dec
- Year 4 Production To Parents (time tbc) - 11th Dec
- Year 4 Production To Parents (time tbc) - 12th Dec
- Christmas Lunch - 13th Dec
- Christmas Jumper Day - 15th Dec
- School Closes at 2pm - 19th Dec
- INSET Day - 3rd Jan
- School Re-opens - 4th Jan