



NEWSLETTER



Friday 16th October 2020

Dear All,

It has been a very long week in school and I think everyone is looking forward to a much needed rest! The resilience and enthusiasm of the children has been fantastic this term and we are so proud of how well they have adapted to being back in school. I am also incredibly grateful to all of our staff who have worked tirelessly to make sure that everyone has been as happy and safe as possible.

Guidance on the Covid-19 pandemic continues to be updated regularly and, at the moment, it isn't impossible that we will be required to have a 'circuit break' when children learn at home. We will have to be guided completely by the government on this but please do take the time to complete our accessibility survey so that we can support you as much as possible should that time come. Thank you to everyone who has done so already. The link is... <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WJN9BY>

This is our last newsletter before half-term so I would like to wish you a peaceful and relaxing break. I hope you all get time to recharge batteries and catch-up on rest before the new term begins.

Happy Friday!

Mrs L Watts, Executive Headteacher

This week in class...

Little Brown Hare: As Sas has been away from pre-school this week we will have to wait until after half-term to find out what our youngest children have been up to!

Blackbirds: Blackbirds class have been looking finding out about colours around the world and locally by using google maps. We have used these images to inspire paintings, role play journeys and map making and have also had fun looking for where we live. In the woods, the children have been learning about what happens to leaves when they fall on the ground. We found out they are broken down by fungi, slime mould and small creatures like worms. We found lots of examples of these out in the forest school area. The children have also been doing lots of writing, with year ones becoming more and more independent and reception children all very keen to try out the letters they are learning.

Wagtails: In Wagtails this week we have been looking at the reasons why Hindus celebrate Holi and also how they celebrate it. We noticed that it has similarities to the Christian celebration of Easter. We have been spending time looking at the different symbols and what they represent for each festival and how festivals help people to feel a sense of belonging in their religion and cultures.

Skylarks: Skylarks have been getting messy and are experimenting making their own sculpture creations this week. They have used a wide variety of media including wire, salt dough, recycled plastic and foil. Thanks to everyone who sent items in. Our writing has also got really creative and descriptive lately: learning to use subordinate clauses, adverbial phrases and more! We had a fantastic tag rugby match on Friday with lots of great teamwork. If you have already paid for our sculpture trips, thank you, but those still needing to pay please do so before half term if you can.



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House points so far this term

Willow

332

Elm

350

Oak

302

Ash

227



World Mental Health Day

Thank you so much to everyone who wore something **YELLOW** on Monday and donated money to Young Minds. We raised £80 across the federation for this important charity- well done!!



Friends of Erpingham Primary

Thank you to all those who came along to the AGM on Monday, we appreciate your time. Thank you also to the committee who have worked so hard over the last year and to those agreeing to stay on again for the year to come. We are incredibly grateful for your support.



Umbrellas

A big **thank you** goes to Mr Portas and Mr Kimpton for raiding their brolly stores and providing all the brollies we now need to keep our hand washing in the woods weather proof. Thank you!

A note from Nicola Newt

Thank you for providing some great healthy lunches and snacks to keep your children focussed, active and energised in the woods. We've seen some yummy balanced choices which have made the grown-ups quite envious of the children's snacks and lunch pack contents.

We really do encourage healthy options for the children as we've noticed if children have sugary snacks, it can impact on their energy levels and how they may feel and engage. If you can, please keep the sweeter treats and crisps for the end of the day when you pick your children up.

As we feel the colder weather coming in, we do offer hot chocolate, warm juice and on occasion herbal foraged tea with honey, so children do get a sweet warm energiser in their day.

Forest School Kit

We're still having children arriving with missing items of Forest School kit, please, please, please add more layers than you think. Better to take some off than not have enough to put on!

From next week, your child may have to miss out on Forest School if they haven't got enough kit. Or we may have to ring home to ask you to bring the missing kit in.

This does include a flask of beaker with a lid for a hot drink.

And **please, please, please** check that all items are named, including the bag they come in.

Thank you!



Check out this link to an article in The Guardian which supports the reasons why we feel Forest School and outdoor learning are so important!
https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/oct/14/greener-play-areas-boost-childrens-immune-systems-research-finds?CMP=Share_iOSApp_Other



Harvest Festival

Whilst we can't hold our harvest festival all together this year, we will be celebrating in each class. We would love to be able to make a really big donation to the food bank this year to support families in the local area at this difficult time. Any donations of tinned/packaged food items or toiletries/cleaning products would be greatly appreciated. Please send in donations before half-term. **Thank you!**

School breaks up for the half-term holidays on Thursday 22nd of October. We are open on the 22nd but closed on the 23rd. We look forward to seeing everyone back safe and sound on **Monday 2nd of November**. Happy holidays!

