

The Echelford Echo



Friday 3rd November 2023

Weekly Issue Number 8

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back this week. There was lots of excitement in year 4 who were visited by Safari Pete and an array of his animals and our Reception children entertained and wowed KS1 with their performances following their dance workshop with Don Rae. You can read more about the dance workshop below.

The rather wet weather this week and the darker evenings reminds us that we are now heading into winter. Please ensure that your child has a warm, named coat each day in school as they will need to wear this when outside on the playground. Preparations are beginning for our Christmas performances later this term. Please check the dates of the various performances in the dates section of the newsletter. We will be writing to you soon to share how to reserve tickets for these events.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a parent governor vacancy on our Local Governing Body. Attached to the newsletter this week you will find some extra information which outlines more details regarding the expectations of the role. There is also a letter detailing the process for nominating yourself and the timeline for this. If you are keen to see the school develop and contribute to the local community we would love to receive your nomination.

Staff News

Ms Ball, 3BT class teacher and our Co-inclusion leader, has made the decision to pursue other opportunities and will therefore not be returning to Echelford. We wish her the very best for her future career and endeavours and thank her for all her hard work over the years at Echelford in both her teaching and inclusion roles.

This week we welcomed Miss Lyons who has joined our staff team as the new class TA in 4S. The children have enjoyed getting to know her and are looking forward to continuing to benefit from her support.

We would like to congratulate Miss Donder who became Mrs Oktay during the half term break. We wish her the very best in her new married life. To reflect this RD have become RO and the children involved have been wonderful in adopting their new class name identity.

Reception Dance Workshop

This week, Reception had an exciting workshop from Don Rae Dance Academy. The children started the workshop by being transported to India through the use of music. Here the children used their imagination to paint elephants and design Rangoli through different movements. Within the workshop the children learnt all about the festival of light, Diwali.

Each class learnt a dance routine which together retold the story of Diwali. The children used props such as scarfs, hats and costumes to bring the story to life. To complete our dance workshop the children performed their dances to the rest of KS1. The Reception children had a lovely day and will use this learning to celebrate Diwali next week.



Class Assembly for 2K & 5B

Please look at the term dates below as there has been a date change for the class assemblies for the above two classes.

The Poppy Appeal

We have poppy's and other remembrance items available in the office. Next week children from year 6 will be taking these around the classes so all children will have the opportunity to donate and receive a poppy or other item (these include wrist bands and reflective poppies) our suggested donation for one of these larger items would be 50p - £1.

We have also been advised on 12th November there will be memorabilia show in the Two Rivers car park in Staines where there will be various war artefacts on show including a Spitfire.

Anti-Bullying Week

This week you were sent an email outlining some of the different events taking place during this week. We appreciate that things begin to get very busy this half term with different events so please read this information carefully.

Free school holiday club vouchers

Surrey County Council have partnered with HolidayActivities to support the delivery of the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF), a scheme which offers free school holiday club places to children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM). This means that we automatically distribute HAF vouchers to all our eligible families via the free HolidayActivities platform without families having to request the vouchers. Vouchers will be sent via email to the same parent who currently receives the holiday time FSM vouchers. If your child is eligible for free school meals and you would like to check the contact details for the individual who will be receiving the vouchers please contact the school office by latest 3pm on Monday 6th November.

For more information about HolidayActivities, please see their website <https://www.holidayactivities.com/>.

Maths Week England 2023 Mon 29th Jan - Fri 2nd Feb- can you help?

Our annual Maths Week takes place during January this year and the focus this year will be on helping to raise money for NSPCC.

Miss Green and Miss Watson are still finalising details for the week but would love to hear from anyone who might be interested to come in and talk to the children about how they use mathematics in their job. This was a really successful aspect of our Maths Week in 2022, that was enjoyed by the children and the adults who came into school. If you are interested in supporting us with this, do get in touch with Miss Green and Miss Watson via the school email address office.echelford@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk and they will contact you to discuss and offer guidance and support if required.



Echelford's Santa Fun Run

We will be kicking off the festive period again this year with Echelford's Santa Fun Run. It will be taking place on Friday 1st December 3:30-4:15pm bringing us together to start the countdown to Christmas with some festive fitness. This event is for everyone and is free for all participants. While you walk, skip or jog, you can enjoy some joyous music and festive treats. There will be a range of refreshments and Christmas accessories on offer for you, provided by the PTFA, to also purchase on the day. In preparation for the event, the children will be improving their stamina in school, through small pockets of walking, jogging and running being added to their daily routine. We do hope you are as excited as we are and come and join in with this fun, feel-good event.



Borrowed Clothing

We are changing the clothing of lots of children throughout the day but unfortunately, we are not getting very many items returned. If your child has to be changed during the day, please can we ask that the borrowed clothing is washed and returned to the school office as soon as possible.

Carrier Bags

If you have any spare carrier bags at home please can you bring them into the school office as we are getting very low.

Borrowed Cutlery

If your child has borrowed any of our cutlery to eat their packed lunch could these be returned to the school office. If you do provide food for your child that requires any cutlery please ensure you provide them with the relevant items to enable them to eat their lunch.

Time To Talk



In the news this week

Kenyan long-distance runner, Kelvin Kiptum, crossed the line in a new world record time at this year's Chicago Marathon, wearing Nike Alphafly 3 'super shoes'. He completed the race in the time of 2:00:35, beating the record set by fellow Kenyan, Eliud Kipchoge, in 2022, by 34 seconds. It was Kiptum's third marathon, and he now holds three of the six fastest times in history. In September this year, Tigst Assefa from Ethiopia also broke the women's marathon world record in Berlin.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Do you think it is fair that a lot of focus has been on the shoes Kelvin was wearing rather than what he has achieved with a new world record?
- > Do you feel that people should be allowed to wear whatever they like in competitions?
- > In your opinion, should there be a different rule for professional athletes and those who are entering for fun/not as a professional?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Vacancies Within the Trust

Riverbridge Primary School in Staines is looking to recruit two Term Time Office Assistants

Riverbridge is recruiting for their office administration team. If you have excellent IT skills, highly effective written and verbal communication skills and the ability to manage multiple priorities then they would love to hear from you. The application deadline has been extended to Monday 13th November with interviews to take place on Thursday 16th November. To find out more about the role and to apply online please visit eteach via this link:

<https://www.eteach.com/job/school-office-assistant-1378706>.

Riverbridge Primary School Office Assistant (term time) vacancies

We are looking to recruit two professional, motivated individuals to join our school office administration team. This is an exciting opportunity for anyone wishing to be part of a school which enjoys a diverse catchment, a vibrant community and a strong team spirit committed to ensuring the provision is right for every child.

Role 1: Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm
Role 2: Thursday and Friday only 8.30am - 4.30pm

If you have excellent IT skills, highly effective written and verbal communication skills and the ability to manage multiple priorities then we would love to hear from you. Ideally you will have experience of working in a school environment but more crucially, are professional in your approach and tenacious both in your desire to make a lasting personal contribution to our children's lives and to forge collaborative relationships with colleagues.

Closing date for applications: 6.00pm, Monday 13th November Interviews: Thursday 16th November

For more information and to apply
please follow the link below:
<https://www.eteach.com/job/school-office-assistant-1378706>



Echelford School is recruiting:

Your Community Needs You!

Are you friendly, reliable, willing to work outdoors in all weathers and physically fit, to ensure the safety of children and parents? Do you care about your community and have a little time to spare?

If the answer is yes, we have the perfect job for you! Echelford School are recruiting for a school crossing patrol officer. For more information please visit: <https://www.eteach.com/job/school-crossing-patrol-officer-1378197>

Darley Dene School is recruiting:

Are you ambitious and keen to make a difference?

We are seeking to appoint a highly enthusiastic, proactive, flexible and reliable individual for the role of Teaching Assistant.

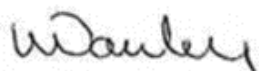
This is an opportunity for an individual who is patient and emotionally resilient to join our friendly, inclusive and inspirational team of teaching and support staff. For more information please visit

<https://www.eteach.com/job/teaching-assistant-1378206>

Best wishes,

Karen Oakley
Co-Headteacher

Jess Bugembe
Co-Headteacher



Word of the week

Each week, we will be sharing a word of the week. Please use this word with your child where possible, and encourage them to use it at home and school.

bargain (noun)

Meaning: a thing bought or offered for sale much more cheaply than is usual or expected

Example: "The trainers were a bargain in the sales."

Origin: probably of Germanic origin and related to German borgen 'borrow'.



This week we have been learning...

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| Reception | <p>This week Reception started the week with a Halloween focus and used the story Funny Bones to help them get into the spooky spirit. From this the children made puppets and retold the story. In maths, we have been learning about different shapes. The children were able to name all 3D and 2D shapes and describe their properties.</p> <p>On Thursday, the children had a very exciting dance workshop from Don Rae Dance Academy. Here the children learnt the story of Diwali and even performed their dances to the rest of KS1.</p> <p>Phonics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• sl - hill, fill, pull• ss - dress, press, mess• j - jam, jill, jug |
| Year 1 | <p>What a fun filled (and spooky) week Year 1 have had! We welcomed everyone back by catching up on half term news and shared these with our peers using our Oracy skills. In Literacy, we become immersed in our new and exciting book called 'The Secret Sky Garden' where we use our senses to write a descriptive setting. In Maths, we began our new topic of Shape looking at 2D and 3D shapes. We explored how many vertices and corners each shape has and went on a shape hunt around the classroom. The children were very excited by our new Science topic looking at the different types of materials we have and their properties.</p> <p>Phonics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ir - girl, first, shirt• ie - pie, cried, fried• ue - blue, rescue, argue• u - tuna, unit, music <p>Tricky words: here, today, one, their, people, oh, your</p> <p>Phonics:</p> <p>Tricky words:</p> |

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| Year 2 | <p>This week we have been learning about the five oceans. Within Literacy, we have written sentences about this topic, considering how we can join two sentences together using a conjunction (and/but). In Maths we have been continuing to use bar models to help us solve addition and subtraction equations. Additionally, we have started to look at habitats within Science. In Computing we are continuing our learning about codes and algorithms by coding within ScratchJr.</p> <p>Bridge to Spelling: /r/ written rh - rhino /g/ written gue - league /c/ written que - mosque /m/ written mn - autumn</p> |
| Year 3 | <p>Year 3 has had a fantastic start to Autumn Term 2 with the introduction of our new topic, 'Going Underground'. This exciting project takes us to 'Lizard Street' with our new text 'Krindlekrax' where we have met the main character, 'Ruskin'. The children have made excellent predictions about what our new story might be about and crafted interesting character descriptions. In Science, we have started to look at light and consider the best sources of light that will help us to see in the dark. In Maths we finished collecting data to make graphs and have started a new unit, looking at the 'Making 10' mental maths strategy.</p> <p>Spellings: Words with the prefix 're-' e.g. redo, replay, redecorate, review, refresh and rebound.</p> |
| Year 4 | <p>We have had a fantastically exciting start to Autumn 2, which kicked off with a visit from Safari Pete. We had the opportunity to meet a barn owl, a blue beauty snake (who ate a mouse right in front of us!), a tarantula named Lady Gaga, 2 bearded dragons, a Cayman called Jay Z and a tree frog with incredibly beautiful markings. We learnt about where these animals live and what they need to survive, which sparked our curiosity about our Science learning for this half term about food chains. In Literacy, we have started to explore our new text, Varjak Paw, and in Maths we have been continuing to learn about division.</p> <p>Spellings: To spell words with the suffix '-ation' Information, sensation, preparation, vibration, decoration, donation, duration, registration, population, determination</p> |
| Year 5 | <p>It's been lovely to welcome Year 5 back for Autumn 2. In Literacy, we were introduced to our new Power of Reading text, Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick, and have been making predictions about what will happen next in the story based on the cover and the first chapter. In Maths, we have been looking at the difference between factors and multiples, and creating 'factor bugs' to show all the different factor pairs a number may have. This term in PE we will be covering gymnastics, and the children enjoyed their first session practising these skills on Wednesday.</p> <p>Spellings: We have been re-visiting our Year 5 and 6 spelling words.</p> |
| Year 6 | <p>Year 6 have had a brilliant first week back after half-term! In Maths, we have continued with our 'Fractions' unit, specifically, adding fractions and finding fraction and decimal equivalents. In Literacy, we have been applying a range of stylistic devices such as: similes/metaphors, alliteration and expanded noun phrases to our descriptive writing in order to develop the strength of our pieces through figurative language. In Music, we explored pitch and how to identify pitches within an octave when singing.</p> <p>Spellings: Words with an /oa/ sound spelled 'ou' or 'ow' For example: shoulder, smoulder, shallow, poultry, soul</p> |

ACE Awards

Congratulations to the following children who have received this week's ACE Award.

| Class | Name | Awarded |
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| RG | Luna - Rose | For fantastic rhythm in our dance workshop this week! |
| RL | Blake | For putting in his best effort in writing this week. |
| RO | Elijah | For your great moves and enthusiasm during our dance workshop |
| 1A | Oliwier | For great focus in his Literacy and handwriting this week! |
| 1C | Florence | For aiming high and showing determination with her letter formation. |

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| 1H | Kanan | For always remaining focussed and on task in our lessons and for confidently using his phonics sounds in his writing. |
| 2B | Franco | For trying his best within all his learning, especially Maths this week. |
| 2K | Erin M | For excellent effort in her learning this week and particularly in maths. |
| 2W | Elia | For being a kind friend to everyone in our class and always setting an example to others. |
| 3BT | Ebony | For being extremely helpful around the classroom and a kind friend. |
| 3H | Harley | For his excellent effort in our Literacy learning this week when making predictions about our new book. |
| 3S | Aarav | For his excellent level of reading over half term and a brilliant start this week! |
| 4LJ | Cody | For his incredible improvement in his handwriting |
| 4M | Karma | For her excellent effort in her learning this week, particularly in Maths! |
| 4S | James | For always setting a good example of behaviour expectations both in and out of the classroom. |
| 5B | Elisa | For her supportive and encouraging nature and helping others without being asked. |
| 5G | Juno | For her brilliant effort in Literacy this week, and for consistently making green choices. |
| 5W | Isobel | For aiming high in her learning and modelling green choices to her peers. |
| 6H | Ellie | For aiming high in her Literacy writing this week when describing an insect using a range of purposeful figurative language. |
| 6J | Mitansh | For making excellent learning choices throughout the week |
| 6W | Jessica | For always setting an excellent example of good behaviour and independent learning. |

Gold Leaf Achievers

Special congratulations to: Alfie M, Oliwier O, Noor V, Isla H, Hugo G, Ava S, Ayaan H, Tia T, Aizah M, Rosie M, Ellis L, Elodie M, Issri R, Joseph E, Maximillian S, Zainab F, Ethan H, Hassan A, Levi-Rose M, William G, Rose E, Jenson W, Arjan P, Connor R, Nova H, Ebony S, Mannat K, Alesha B, Jocelyne S, Hubert O, Isabella S, Erin H, Jotham D, Lewys J, Annie V, Ilias K, Sophia H, Oscar C, Kareena S and Dija V.

Achievements outside of school

If your child would like to celebrate success within the school community, please inform your class teacher or the office staff of your news. Along with the Newsletter, we will display any sports achievement photos and information on our 'Sports Shout Outs' board in the gym.

Term Dates for 2023 – 2024

| November | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| Monday 13th | | World Kindness Day |
| Mon 13th – Fri 17th | | Anti-Bullying Week |
| Monday 13th | | Odd Socks Day – Anti Bullying Alliance |
| Wednesday 15th | 9.00am | 2B Class Assembly |
| Thursday 16th | 3.00pm | Year 1 PTFA Bake Sale |
| Friday 17th | | BBC Children in Need -Wear your PJ's Day |
| Wednesday 29th | 2.00pm | Reception Nativity |
| Thursday 30th | 9.15am | Reception Nativity |
| December | | |
| Friday 1st | | PTFA Mufti for Christmas Fair |
| Friday 1st | 3.30-4.15pm | Santa Fun Run |
| Wednesday 6th | 2.00pm | KS1 Nativity |
| Thursday 7th | 9.15am | KS1 Nativity |
| Friday 8th | | PTFA Christmas Fair |
| Tuesday 12th | 2.30pm & 3.30pm | Upper KS2 Christmas Performance |

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| Wednesday 13th | 9am | Headteachers' Assembly |
| Thursday 14th | 2.30pm & 3.30pm | Lower KS2 Christmas Performance |
| Tuesday 19th | 1.45pm | End of Term |
| January | | |
| Thursday 4th | | Children return to school |
| Wednesday 17th | 9.00am | 4M Class Assembly |
| Wednesday 24th | 9.00am | 5B Class Assembly |
| Mon 29th Jan - Fri 2nd Feb | | Maths Week |
| Wednesday 31st | | 1C Class Assembly |
| February | | |
| Friday 2nd | | Year 3 Sleepover |
| Friday 2nd | | Young Voices Concert at Wembley |
| Mon 5th – Fri 9th | | Echelford Expo Week |
| Monday 5th | | Year 3 Feet First |
| Tuesday 6th | | Year 3 Feet First |
| Tuesday 6th | 9.30am | EYFS Stay and Learn |
| Tuesday 6th | | Safer Internet Day |
| Wednesday 7th | 9.30am | EYFS Stay and Learn |
| Wednesday 7th | 9.00am | 3BT Assembly |
| Thursday 8th | 9.30am | EYFS Stay and Learn |
| Thursday 8th | | Year 3 Feet First |
| Thursday 8th | 3.00pm | Year 2 PTFA Bake Sale |
| Mon 12th – Fri 16th | | Half Term |
| Saturday 17th | | Random Acts of Kindness Day |
| Wednesday 28th | 9.00am | 2K Class Assembly |
| Friday 29th | 3.00pm | Costume Sale for World Book Day and Year 3 PTFA Bake Sale |
| March | | |
| Wednesday 6th | | 3H Class Assembly |
| Thursday 7th | | World Book Day |
| Fri 8th – Sun 17th | | Science week |
| Wednesday 13th | 9.00 | 1H Class Assembly |
| Friday 15th | | Young Carers Day |
| Fri 15th - Sun 17th | | Year 5 Bowles Residential |
| Friday 15th | | Red Nose Day |
| Wednesday 20th | | 1A Class Assembly |
| Tuesday 26th | 4.00-7.00pm | Parent Teacher Consultations |
| Wednesday 27th | 3.30-6.00pm | Parent Teacher Consultations |
| Wednesday 27th | 9.00am | Headteachers' Assembly |
| Thursday 28th | 1.45pm | End of Term |
| April | | |
| Monday 15th | | Children return to school |
| Wed 17th - Fri 19th | | Year 4 Bikeability Level 1 |
| Monday 22 nd | | Earth Day |
| Wednesday 24th | 9.00am | 5G Class Assembly |
| Thursday 25th | 3.00pm | Year 4 PTFA Bake Sale |
| Mon 29th Apr - Fri 3rd May | | Year 6 Bikeability |
| May | | |
| Wednesday 1st | 9.00am | 3S Class Assembly |
| Monday 6 th | | May Bank Holiday |
| Wednesday 8th | | RG Class Assembly |
| Mon 13th - Thurs 16th | | KS2 SATs week |
| Thursday 16th | 3.00pm | Year 5 PTFA Bake Sale |
| Mon 20th - Fri 24th | | Year 4 Rise Up Festival (Exact dates TBC) |
| Mon 20th - Fri 24th | | Year 6 Bikeability |
| Tuesday 21st | 2.30pm | EYFS Stay and Learn |
| Wednesday 22nd | 2.30pm | EYFS Stay and Learn |
| Wednesday 22nd | 9.00am | RL Class Assembly |
| Thursday 23rd | 2.30pm | EYFS Stay and Learn |
| Mon 27th May – Fri 31st | | Half Term |
| June | | |
| Mon 3rd (two-week period) | | Year 4 Multiplication Check |
| Wed 5th | | Sports Day |

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| Friday 7 th | | PTFA Lolly Sale |
| Mon 10 th -Fri 14 th Mon 10 th – Fri 14 th | | Y1 Phonics Screening Y6 Bikeability |
| Wednesday 12 th | 9.00am | 4LJ Class Assembly |
| Friday 14 th | 3.00pm | PTFA Lolly Sale |
| Friday 14 th | | Mufti for Summer Fair |
| Mon 17 th - Fri 21 st | | Book Fair |
| Mon 17 th - Fri 21 st | | Healthy Eating Week |
| Wednesday 19 th | 9.00am | RD Class Assembly |
| Friday 21 st | | PTFA Summer Fair |
| Friday 28 th | 3.00pm | PTFA Lolly Sale |
| July | | |
| Mon 1 st - Fri 5 th | | Celebration of Us week |
| Friday 5 th | 3.00pm | PTFA Lolly Sale |
| Wednesday 10 th | 1.30pm | Year 6 production |
| Wednesday 10 th | 6.30pm | Year 6 production |
| Friday 12 th | 3.00pm | PTFA Lolly Sale |
| Wednesday 17 th | TBC | Year 6 Celebration Day and Colour Run |
| Wednesday 17 th | 9.00am | Headteachers' Assembly |
| Friday 19 th | 9.00am | Leavers' Assembly |
| Friday 19th | | End of term |
| Monday 22nd | | INSET Day 4 |
| Tuesday 23rd | | INSET Day 5 |