

The Echelford Echo



Friday 15th December 2023

Weekly Issue Number 14

The final full week of term has been a wonderful celebration of the children's academic achievements as well as their talents and sense of community. On Tuesday and Thursday, our KS2 children performed their Christmas concerts in their phases to their friends and family. We are extremely proud of all the children for their professional and enthusiastic performances: the enthusiasm of the audience was testament to the high standard of their performances. None of this would have been possible without the hard work from such a dedicated staff team and we thank each of them for the part they played once again in making all of our Christmas performances this year such a success.

We had a fantastic whole school assembly on Wednesday morning and celebrated the success of the children receiving Headteacher's Awards. It was also an opportunity to thank all of the children and staff for their hard work throughout the Autumn term. Thank you to the parents and carers who joined us: it is very special for the children to have you there.

Wednesday was also our festive meal, where staff served the children the delicious meal that was prepared by the kitchen. Thank you to the catering team for all their hard work - they served an amazing 418 Christmas dinners. In between the celebrations and performances this week, on Wednesday all the children had time to pause and reflect on how Christmas is celebrated. A variety of activities took place to support this unit of work in the Religion and World Views curriculum.

One of the final highlights of the week was the annual door competition. This year, classes decorated their own doors with their Christmas themed designs. There was much excitement in assembly today as the winners of each year group were announced. Please continue reading the newsletter to find out who the winners are.

This is a reminder that the last day of term is Tuesday 19th December and we are finishing earlier than our normal school day. Dismissal will be at the following times:

Reception, Years 1 & 2	1.35pm
Years 3 & 4	1.40pm
Years 5 & 6	1.45pm



Christmas Door Competition

On Wednesday afternoon, the school was buzzing with festive excitement as each class embarked on a merry mission to transform their classroom doors into Christmas masterpieces. It wasn't long until the corridors were filled with Christmas trees, reindeer, elves and other festive scenes! The PSHE and Art leads were so impressed by everyone's efforts, and choosing a winner from each year group was not an easy decision. A huge well done to all the children (and teachers!) for their efforts, and a special shout-out to our winners: RG, 1H, 2W, 3BT, 4M, 5W and 6H.



Christmas Fair

This time last week, many of you were enjoying yourselves at the Christmas Fair. It was wonderful to see the playground packed with people enjoying this community event. Such events would certainly not be possible without the time and effort of parent volunteers and we would like to thank the members of the committee who dedicated their time to organising the fair, as well as the many parents/carers who helped in the setting up, running of stalls and clearing up. A highlight for many was listening to the wonderful Echelford Choir - who were fantastic - and the raffle was extremely popular: well done to all who managed to win a prize. All the hard work certainly paid off as the amount raised was over £4000. All funds will go directly to supporting all the children in the school. Plans for the next events in the PTFA calendar are already underway and we encourage you to keep a look out for the PTFA section of the newsletter to ensure you don't miss out.



Year 6 Basketball

Last Friday, a group of Year 6 children represented Echelford at a Basketball tournament held at Matthew Arnold School. The children represented the school with remarkable pride, determination and sportsmanship. They modelled green choices to their peers on and off the court, embodying the values of respect and fair play. They came third place, up against some fierce competition, and returned to Echelford with bronze medals. A special congratulations to Meysam and Alexia who received an extra medal due to their encouraging nature and resilience throughout the tournament.

Activity Clubs for the Spring Term

The Spring term clubs have been published and second clubs are now available. Please check your emails for a list of the clubs we will be offering next term. If you haven't done so already and would like to either book a first or second club, please register using this link - <https://forms.gle/LESYkxFKErPANugd8>

Vacancies within the Trust

Darley Dene Primary School in Addlestone 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 see: <https://www.eteach.com/job/teaching-assistant-1390677>

Lumen Learning Trust is recruiting

We are looking to appoint a member of staff to support in the delivery of P.E. lessons across the five Lumen Learning Trust (LLT) schools: this is an exciting role for anyone who is interested in coaching and developing youth sport. This role is supported by Sports Premium funding and therefore is a fixed term contract, expiring on 31st August 2025. There is the possibility that the contract will be extended subject to the funding from the DfE continuing.

<https://www.eteach.com/job/sports-coach-1389220>

EYFS and KS1 Nativity DVD or Digital Link

We are thrilled to announce the opportunity for you to capture and relive the magic of our EYFS and KS1 Nativity experiences! Our exclusive recording of the heart-warming performances of our EYFS and KS1 children is now available for purchase on DVD (£10) or as a convenient digital link (£8). The recordings will be sent home with your child (DVD) or emailed directly to you (digital link) before the end of the Autumn Term.

Follow the link below or scan the QR code to purchase your copy!

<https://showcase.fcvideo.co.uk/echelford/>



This is our final newsletter of 2023 so we would like to wish you all a peaceful Christmas break when it arrives and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Thursday 4th January 2024!

Karen Oakley
Co-Headteacher

Jess Bugembe
Co-Headteacher

Headteacher Awards

Many congratulations to all of the children who were presented with a Headteacher's Award for their achievement this term.

RG	Teddy L	RL	Evie S	RO	Jude T
1A	Emilyanna B	1C	Effie A	1H	Sienna S
2B	Myra S	2K	Grace E	2W	Kaira G
3BT	Aidan B	3H	Skylar W	3S	Oliver K
4LJ	Cody N	4M	Lian Z	4S	Anaya A
5B	Lily W	5G	Alesha B	5W	Jotham DM
6H	Freddie B	6J	Dija V	6W	Reem M

This week, the winning classes are:



Winning Class – 5B

Winning Class – 1A



Word of the week

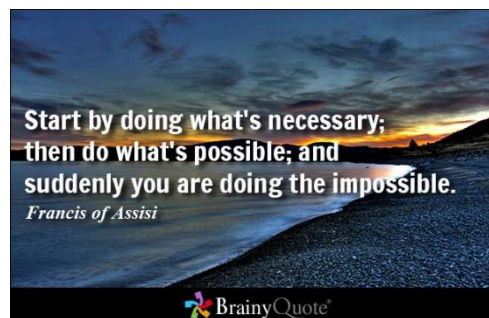
Each week, we will be sharing a word of the week. Please use this word with your child where possible, and encourage them to use it at home and school.

necessary (adjective)

Meaning: needed to be done, achieved, or present

Example: "Tying your laces is necessary to stop you tripping up."

Origin: late Middle English: from Latin *necessarius*, from *necesse* 'be needful'



This week we have been learning...

Reception	<p>It has been a fun filled week in all Reception classes as we have been reading the story of Stick Man. The children loved writing thank you letters to Santa and got stuck in with our role play sessions. In maths, each class has been practising using the bead strings to help them represent their numbers. On Wednesday, the children had fun at our Christmas pause day. They loved decorating their classes and taking part in new craft activities.</p> <p>Phonics: Review week of all phase 2 sounds.</p>
Year 1	<p>This week we have been getting excited about Christmas with our Christmas pause day. We decorated our door and made some cards for our reading buddies. We have been reading <i>How The Grinch Stole Christmas</i> and thinking of exciting adjectives to describe The Grinch. In maths we have been doubling and halving numbers up to 20 using practical resources. We have also designed our own breakfast pots in DT that we will be making next week and built our own Nativity scene out of scrap modelling in RE.</p> <p>Phonics: Reviewing our new phase 5 sounds</p>
Year 2	<p>As we are coming to the end of the term, Year 2 have been drawing a close to all our different topics. In Geography we have concluded our learning about continents and oceans. We have been completing the sewing for our penguin puppets and have used our knowledge of ScratchJr to predict what algorithms would do. In Literacy this week we have created pages of a class book about penguins. In Maths we have been deepening our knowledge of multiplication and division - this will continue in the Spring term.</p> <p>Bridge to Spelling: Rule: Swap the y for an i when you add -ed (e.g. tried, carried) Exceptions: when the y is part of a digraph (e.g. annoyed)</p> <p>Rule: drop the e before adding -ing (e.g. hiding). Exceptions: when the e makes the /ee/ sound (e.g. being, seeing, freeing)</p>
Year 3	<p>After a busy week of rehearsals, Year 3 produced two fantastic Christmas carol performances for their adults to enjoy on Thursday. We have also been writing stories based on a Christmas adventure, using all of the skills we have been learning over the past term. In art, we have been making cubism inspired Christmas cards and practising our new found shading skills.</p> <p>Spellings: To spell words with the digraph 'ai' and tetragraph 'aigh'.</p>
Year 4	<p>This week, Year 4 have been perfecting our songs for our Christmas concerts that took place yesterday. We have also been learning about how Christians celebrate Christmas around the world and sharing our own family Christmas traditions. It has been wonderful to hear about how differently we all approach the festive season and to celebrate that, despite our differences, themes of family, love and spending time together shone through. In Maths, we have been continuing our learning about fractions. Try asking me what a vinculum is!</p> <p>Spellings: We have been practising spelling our Year 3 and 4 common exception words this week</p>
Year 5	<p>This week, Year 5 have been busy performing in the Upper KS2 Christmas concerts! The children did an amazing job bringing some festive cheer to their parents and carers, and we are all so proud of their efforts. In Literacy, the children were able to choose whether to write a diary entry or a story based on a Christmas advert, with the aim of incorporating all the things they have learnt in Literacy lessons so far this year. In Art, the children have been experimenting with printing blocks, creating repeating patterns using 'The Great Wave' as inspiration, and they are beginning to consider how they combine this with other techniques to create their final pieces.</p> <p>Spellings: Words with the suffix '-ably' or '-ibly': dependably, terribly, possibly, horribly, visibly, comfortably, sensibly, reliably, legibly, incredibly.</p>
Year 6	<p>This week, Year 6 took to the stage in their 'Christmas Extravaganza'; performing a range of Christmas classics for their parents and carers. On Wednesday, we spent time in the afternoons crafting and constructing our Christmas doors ready to be judged! In Art, we completed our final pieces where we applied our pencil sketching techniques, inspired by Rosalind Monks. In Computing, we constructed our own information presentations about Bedfont Lakes. The children were able to use their developed Computing skills to embed hyperlinks, images and animations.</p> <p>Spellings: We have continued to revise our Year 5 & 6 Common Exception Words.</p>

Gold Leaf Achievers

Special congratulations to: Radin M, Amaya C, Zack M, Isaac P, Nia L, Logan F, Tommy B, Octavia B, Jude T, Amber S, Jovan G, Ahmed M, Eliza S, Arthur A, Jasmine D, Oliver H, Lerno P, Dotty H, Max T, Avaani P, Olly W, Elodie P, Michael G, Harry B, Rory L, Sienna H, Alfie E, Savannah P, Jessica J, Ibrahim Y, Logan P, Rayan T, Kanan A, Aekambeer S, Ava Y, Owen J, Maximillian S, Jackson D, Ellie P, Nathaniel L, Kesar R, Jaap K, Isla R, Ellie D, Kaira G, Sukhpreet Kaur T, Saoirse M, Ellie D, Own A, Vidhaan S, Ellis B, Salaar M, Jessica W, Rubi W, Mustafa A, Zack F, Jacob J, Luna D, Rayan M, Harley C, Harry A, Paige T, Toby D, Navrina K, Bradley W, Samara O, Niharika J, Reggie A, Freddie Ba, Daniel I, William C, Rajveer B, Hubert O, Eleanor S, Zoe W, Amber P, Jotham D, Oscar C, Fiona G, Lyla R, Jaya S, Caitlin M, Madison-Mae O, Freya E, Matilda D, Archie-Joe S, William H, Millie W, Francesca S, Chloe H, Kareena S, Chloe H, Freddie S, Shrey M, Deben G, Lola B, Blu A, Hannah C, Liliana P, Yo Yo Y, Blake M, Eryn L, Evelina I, Michaela B, Sameeran K, Mason A, Frankie P, Dija V and Amreen G.

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.

Congratulations to Evie in 4S for signing for Brentford Football Emerging Talent Centre. Well done Evie on this amazing achievement.

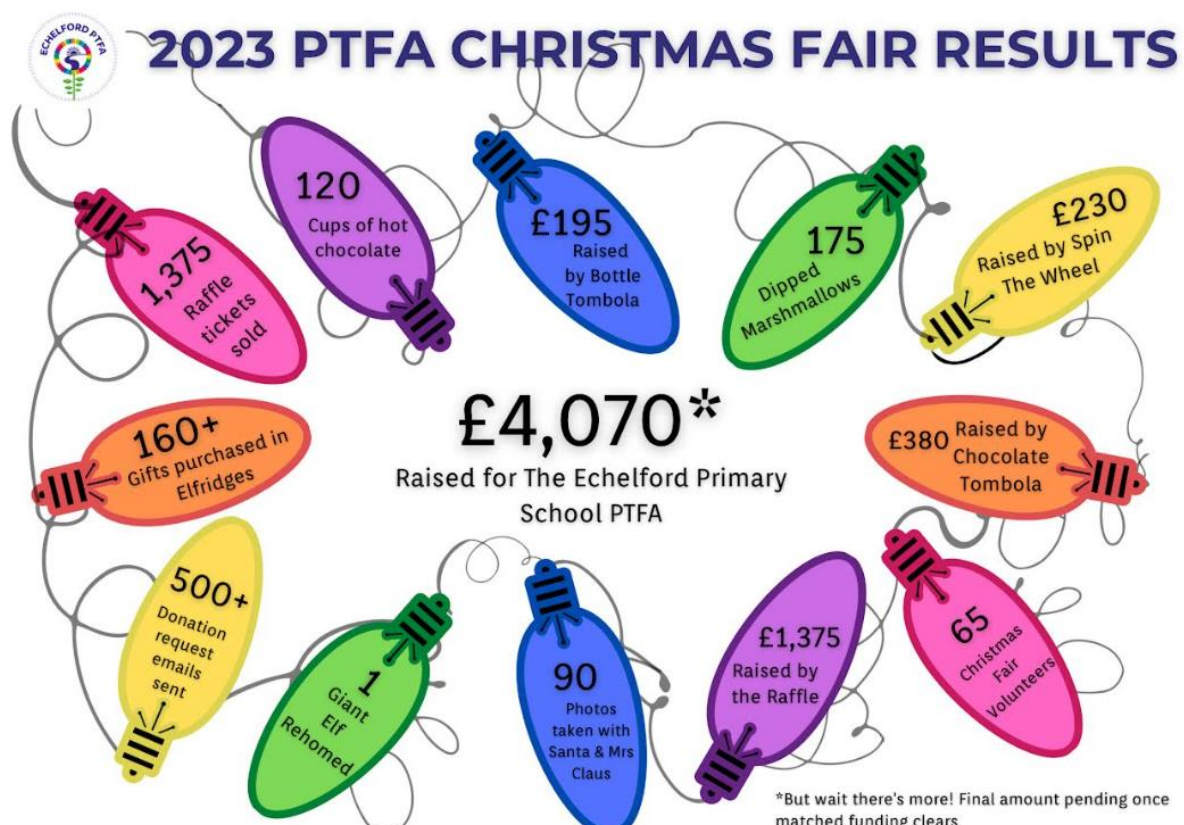


Well done to Yuvraaj in 4LJ and Arjan in RG who both received their swimming award. They passed stage 2 and 1 respectively. Congratulations to you both on this wonderful achievement.

PTFA News

The PTFA committee are THRILLED to announce the incredible results of this year's PTFA Christmas Fair – a whopping total of £4070.00!

This outstanding achievement surpasses last year's total, and it's all thanks to the amazing efforts of everyone involved. A huge THANK YOU to each and every one of you – it truly couldn't have happened without your support and enthusiasm!



Term Dates for 2023 – 2024

December		
Tuesday 19th	Years R, 1 & 2- 1.35 Years 3 & 4 - 1.40 Years 5 & 6 - 1.45	End of Term
January		
Thursday 4th		Children return to school
Wednesday 10th		Year 3 Stone Age Workshop
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
Friday 7 th		PTFA Lolly Sale
Mon 10th -Fri 14th		Y1 Phonics Screening
Mon 10 th – Fri 14th		Y6 Bikeability
Wednesday 12th	9.00am	4LJ Class Assembly
Friday 14th	3.00pm	PTFA Lolly Sale
Friday 14th		Mufti for Summer Fair
Mon 17th - Fri 21st		Book Fair
Mon 17th - Fri 21st		Healthy Eating Week
Wednesday 19th	9.00am	RD Class Assembly
Friday 21st		PTFA Summer Fair
Friday 28th	3.00pm	PTFA Lolly Sale
July		
Mon 1st - Fri 5th		Celebration of Us week
Friday 5th	3.00pm	PTFA Lolly Sale
Wednesday 10th	1.30pm	Year 6 production
Wednesday 10th	6.30pm	Year 6 production
Friday 12th	3.00pm	PTFA Lolly Sale
Wednesday 17th	TBC	Year 6 Celebration Day and Colour Run
Wednesday 17th	9.00am	Headteachers' Assembly
Friday 19th	9.00am	Leavers' Assembly
Friday 19th		End of term
Monday 22nd		INSET Day 4
Tuesday 23rd		INSET Day 5

If you need support now, here's what to do

**If you're in immediate danger:
call 999**

**If you have an urgent need, call our
crisis team on 0800 915 4644 . It's open
24 hours a day – 7 days a week.**

If you're not in a crisis, but still need support ...

If you do not need urgent support, you can talk to your mental health lead in school. They are there to listen and support you with your mental health and wellbeing. If you do not know who this is, talk to a member of school staff you trust and they will be able to help you.

Visit our website, www.mindworks-surrey.org – this offers a wide range of information which can help your mental health and wellbeing. We have resources such as [My Safety Plan](#) and [self-help tips](#) to help guide you through your wellbeing during challenging times. You'll find links to useful websites, recommended reading, plus coping strategies to help you through difficult times.

We are partnered with Kooth, who are a digital mental health platform providing confidential support for all young people. Here you can access forums, activity centres, messaging and live counselling. You can get support when you need it, with no waiting lists or need to be referred by an adult. Visit www.kooth.com for more information.

Sometimes it might feel easier to message/ text about how you are feeling and there are many places you can do this:

- **Shout** : is a free, confidential, 24/7 text support service for anyone in the UK who is struggling to cope. To start a conversation, text the word 'SHOUT' to 85258.
- **Chat Health** : is a safe and easy way for you to speak to a qualified health professional. They provide information about services near you that can provide support. Contact them through their website www.chathealth.nhs.uk

The CYP (Children & Young People) Haven is a safe space for any child or young people aged 10–18 to go where they can talk about worries and mental health in a confidential, friendly and supportive place. Scan the QR code for more information.



We also work closely with young people groups such as Amplify, their contact email amplify.mindworks@sahp.nhs.uk and Surrey Youth Voice, where your voice can help us help other young people's mental health and wellbeing services across Surrey and North East Hampshire. Contact them on 01483 519 464 or user.voice@surreycc.gov.uk

Mindworks Surrey provides a dedicated out-of-hours helpline for parents and carers of children with suspected or diagnosed neurodevelopmental needs such as ASD and or ADHD. It's open 5 pm–11 pm, seven days a week. Call 0300 222 5755.

Mindworks Surrey also offers a range of groups and youth clubs for both children and young people. These are all open to self-referral and you can find out more information on our website by scanning the QR code.



**The Mindworks Access and Advice Team can also provide support in signposting you to more help.
Call them on 0300 222 5755.**

**Find out more at
mindworks-surrey.org**

