



School
Calendar

We have
been
learning...

Curriculum

Our
Facebook
page

PTFA

Online
forms

Pastoral
Support

A career
with
Lumen

Co-Headteachers' Message

A very warm welcome to the families of our new Reception cohort who are joining our mailing list this week. We hope this weekly glimpse into life at Echelford offers a sense of the vibrant, diverse experiences that await your children in September.

We are sure you have all been enjoying the sunshine this week. In school, children have been benefiting from the extra space provided by lunchtime play on the field. As the warm weather is set to continue, please ensure your child brings a named sunhat to school. We also kindly ask that you double-check labels on jumpers and ties; these are frequently shed during outdoor play and are much easier to reunite with their rightful owners when clearly marked.

Pupil voice has been at the heart of our activities this week as our children take lead roles in shaping our school environment. On Monday, the School Council delivered an assembly on the importance of keeping our grounds tidy, a theme beautifully reinforced by class 3S during their World Earth Day assembly on Wednesday. The children have already translated these words into action by launching a new school-wide litter picking scheme. It is always a proud moment to see our pupils demonstrating such genuine care for their environment and taking tangible steps to protect it.

In addition to our environmental efforts, we are currently working toward becoming a Centre of Excellence for Oracy. Mrs. Smith has been delighted to spend time with pupils this week, gathering their quotes and firsthand experiences of how our focus on speaking and listening skills has boosted their confidence. We would love to involve our parent community in this journey as well; if you have noticed your child demonstrating refined oracy skills at home, please do share these examples with Mrs. Smith via the school office to support our application.

Finally, we are continuing to evidence our commitment to the Six Principles of Nurture as we apply for the Nurturing Schools Award later this term. This week, the School Council collaborated with Mrs. Willis to articulate exactly how these principles are lived out through the support of our staff and the daily interactions within our classrooms. Hearing the children speak with such pride about their experiences and their sense of belonging truly highlights what makes being a pupil at Echelford so special.

Mrs . Bugembe & Miss Oakley



Inclusion Insights

This week, we will look at another principle of nurture, how this is lived out at Echelford and how you can support at home.



Learning - Children's learning is understood developmentally.

At school, we live this principle by supporting children to learn at the right pace for them:

- **Scaffolded success:** We break big tasks into small steps. This ensures every child experiences the "I did it!" moment daily, which is the best fuel for self-esteem.
- **Flexible outcomes:** We offer children different ways to present their learning: by typing, using speech-to-text functionality, through drawing or manipulatives.
- **Focus on effort:** You'll hear our staff praising the *process*—"I love how you didn't give up on that tricky word"—rather than just the final piece.
- **Enhanced provision:** We recognize that some children may need more play-based learning even as they move up through the school years.

At home, you could try:

- **The "Power of Yet"** - If your child says "I can't do this," add the word yet. "You can't do this yet." This small change suggests that mastery is coming with practice.
- **Celebrate Small Wins** - Did they put their shoes on the right feet? Did they try one new vegetable? Noticing these small achievements builds the "success muscle."
- **Low-Pressure Talk** - Use the "drive-and-talk" or "walk-and-talk" method. Sometimes children share more about their learning when they don't have to make direct eye contact.

Our next **SEND parent/carer forum** will be next week: **Wednesday 29th April from 2-3pm.**

For this session, we will have a guest speaker, Tracy Playfoot, Neurodiversity Advisor from Surrey's [Team Around the School Support Hub](#).

We will talk about the **SEND support process** and the **EHCP process** from both a school and Local Authority point of view, so please come along if you would like to find out more about this.

Everyone is welcome - just come along to the school office.



Uniform reminders

The children pride themselves on wearing their Echelford uniform and representing the school. A few key reminders regarding accessories to ensure that all children are looking smart:

- A small wrist watch (or one that can count steps) is permitted. **Smart watches that can be used to communicate are not permitted.**
- Small & discreet stud earrings (these earrings must be removed for PE in compliance with the Lumen Learning Trust PE Policy). No other jewellery is permitted.
- Nail varnish, false nails, make-up and temporary tattoos are not appropriate for school and a pupil will be asked to remove these accessories if seen by a member of staff.
- All children with shoulder-length or longer hair must have it completely tied back; hair should not be worn in a half-up-half-down style.
- Short hair should be uniform in length i.e. not shaved in one part and excessively long elsewhere.
- Hair bands should be small and plain in the neutral colours of white, black, brown, beige and blue only.
- Decorative and large accessories such as bows, headbands and long ribbons are not appropriate for school as they serve no functional purpose. We also now request that large plastic claw hair clips are not worn to school as they can be hazardous in the playground. Pupils will be asked to remove these items if worn.
- Extreme hair styles are not permitted in school; this includes patterns cut into hair e.g. tram lines, excessive use of hair products e.g. gel, the use of hair dye in non-natural colours or bleach.

Email Communication

It has been brought to our attention that some email communications are being sent into junk folders. Please check your junk folders in case this is happening and if so, please mark the emails as being from a trusted source. If you are not receiving any emails from us then you may have unsubscribed from SCOPAY so please log in and subscribe in order for you to receive all the relevant information we share.

Parking Reminders

A reminder to ensure that you are parking responsibly when dropping or picking up your child. This includes making sure you are not obstructing neighbours' driveways or stopping on the zig zag lines. Please can we ask you to be considerate for other parents and our neighbours when parking in the roads near the school. Can we remind you to treat our neighbours with respect at all times, especially in the presence of children. We also ask that you don't turn in the road directly outside the school as this causes extra congestion and makes it unsafe for pedestrians to cross. It has also been brought to our attention that cars are pulling up onto the pathway without consideration for pedestrians, we must all be vigilant and careful in order to keep our children safe. Many thanks for your support with this matter.

Children's Birthdays

We would love to continue to celebrate your child's birthday in school and appreciate that you may wish to send in something for your child's class. A reminder, we now ask that parents/carers do not send in sweets/food to celebrate a birthday. We hope you understand that this is because we have an increasing number of children with complex allergies and dietary requirements. Instead, if you wish to celebrate your child's birthday in school, we suggest sending in a birthday book (new, second hand or spare one from home) which will be labelled with a special birthday sticker, shared with the class and kept in their class library.

Pupil Data Collection

We are no longer sending home the pupil data sheet for parents to check and amend. If there are any changes to your contact details, medical or dietary requirements for your child etc please ensure you inform the school office.



Healthy Snack for Break Time

All children are welcome to bring a healthy snack to school to eat during their break time. These should be in as little packaging as possible because we're also keen to reduce our use of plastics (e.g. no bear yoyo's or fruit winders).

These snacks are limited to:

- Fresh Fruit
- Fresh Vegetables
- Dried Fruit
- Plain rice cakes
- Bread sticks
- Yoghurt tube
- Plain crackers
- Pitta bread or Wraps (with no filling)

If children come into school with something that is not on the list it will be sent back home. No cutlery should be brought in. A reminder that only Reception and Key Stage 1 children are provided daily fruit or vegetables as part of the Government scheme.

We are a No Nut School

We would like to remind you that Echelford is a no nut school therefore we do not allow any food containing nuts to be consumed anywhere on the school grounds. Please do not give your child any food that contains nuts. This includes Nutella, pesto, cereal bars, peanut butter, chicken satay etc. If you are unsure, we would be grateful if you could check the ingredients before you pack their lunches, this will be hi-lighted in bold on the ingredient list. This is very important as there are children that have a severe nut allergy and we all need to adhere to this rule to keep everyone safe.



Oracy - Food For Talk

This is one of our Food For Talk topics that children have been discussing at lunchtime this week.

Friday - What would you choose...

Which pet would you choose?




Food for Talk!

The pet I would choose is... because...

I agree because...

I couldn't disagree more because...





Vacancies Within the Trust

Southfield Park Primary & Ewell Grove Primary & Nursery School are recruiting: We are looking to appoint a permanent part-time HR Assistant to join our HR Team. This exciting role will support the Trust's HR Manager with providing a range of administrative support services to assist effective and efficient HR, payroll and training & development across the Trust. This is an excellent opportunity for someone looking to grow their experience in HR whilst contributing to a supportive and collaborative team. Working hours are: 25 hours per week, to be worked between 8am and 4pm Monday to Friday, term time plus 5 inset days and one additional week to be worked during school holidays (39 weeks a year).

For more information please visit: <https://www.eteach.com/job/hr-assistant-1542318>

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 Isla-Jean in 6W and her team, Colne Valley U12 Girls, who won their league this week in incredible style with a final game score of 13-2!

To make it even more amazing, they finished the season by winning all 22 games — an unbeaten season! What a fantastic achievement for all the girls, coaches, and supporters. You are all very worthy champions and you should be very proud of yourselves. Well done!



Well done to Iona in 5M and Isabelle in 2DB who both decided to cut their hair short and donate their long locks to charity. Their hair is now going to be made into wigs for cancer patients. This is such a worthwhile cause and we are very proud of your decision to do this.



Well done to Willow in 5L and her dance crew who were placed first in the advanced category and she placed third in the duo competition. She is super proud of her achievements. Congratulations Willow on this superb achievement.





Class Learning Awards

The following classes were this week’s winners, working as a team whilst using our curriculum online resources. Well done.

	Class: 4B		Class: 2DB
---	------------------	--	-------------------

Green Values Award

Every week, an award is presented to a child in each class for embodying one of our Green Values. Congratulations to those children who have represented one of our values so brilliantly this week.

RA	Dillon	RC	Shrey	RG	Isja
1A	Harrison	1B	Jacob	1CE	Cody
2A	Ebbenny	2DB	Amrit	2I	Jessica
3B	Isla	3O	Kazim	3S	Finley
4B	Aubrey	4GB	Zainab	4R	Jenson
5L	Aurora	5M	Keira	5P	Aidan
6H	Rosie	6S	Dylan	6W	Harper

Gold Leaf Achievers

Every week, we celebrate those children awarded a Gold Leaf this week for their effort and achievement in their learning.

Radhya N, Ayeza M, Aahana S, Rafi B, Maya S, Ashton H, Khwaish L, Yuvi O, Oliver K, Raisa D, Theo W, Cody W, Flynn B, Faizaan K, Lizzie M, George-Bailey H, Asher J, Jenson G, Poppy K, Henry H, Ruben P, Sidney T, May-Rose W, Ollie J, Ollie R, Ezra W, Benjamin B, Phoebe P, Oscar B, Viaan S, Arham K, Cody H, Abhay B, Riley J, Carla V, Isaac P, Octavia B, Rheya B, Jude T, Jovan g, Luna H, Ebbenny w, Joshua K, Maya Violet B, Harper B, Amaya C, Asil E, Florence C, Scarlett W, Jimmy C, Saira A, Alfie M, Gurmehar K, Isaac S, Shiloh M, Jackson H, Emilia R, Theodore C, Bodhi M, Effie A, Harry B, Leo J, Ibrahim Y, Kazim Z, Sienna S, Aditya R, Teddy B, Emilyanna B, Dotty H, Finley J, Michael G, Sahara S, Georgina P, Isla R, Ellie P, Ayaan H, Nathaniel L, Levi-Rose M, Aizah M, Ellie D, Zainab F, Teeyan B, Navraj B, Jackson D, Jayjay N, Robyn C, Sahib T, Kaira G, Owen J, Vidhaan S, Thomas M, Henry P, Nova H, Ella T, Abbie L, Connor R, Verity V, Arjan P, Naksh M, Daria B, Gurdeep B, Robert A, Jennifer M, Kaira S, Nina P, Hallie T, Evie H, Jasmin C, Jasmine W, Jacob J, Mason C, Idris Kh, Dexter D, Monika T, Nysha S, Kaya G, Yihui T, James Bl, Cody N, James G, Joseph H, Liam N, Archie H, Jake Me, Edyth M, Lian Z, Freddie W, Indigo E, Samuel W, Rian D and Harper L.

On behalf of the Echelford Primary staff team, we wish you a pleasant week.



Important Dates

April		
Tuesday 28th	3.00pm	Year 6 Sweet Sale – KS2 Playground
Wednesday 29th	9.00am	RO Class Assembly
Thursday 30th April	3.00PM	Year 6 Sweet Sale (if there is anything unsold from Tuesday)
May		
Monday 4th		May Bank Holiday
Wednesday 6th		RA Class Assembly
Thursday 7th May		Year 5 PTFA Bake Sale
Monday 11th - Thursday 14th		KS2 SATs week
Friday 15th		Enterprise Day Year 6
Mon 18th to Fri 22nd	All day	Year 6 Bikeability Group 1
Wednesday 20th		Year 1 Family Learning Session 3
Wednesday 20th	9.00am	3O Class Assembly
Mon 25th May – Fri 29th Half Term		
June		
Monday 1st		Children return to school
Monday 1st (two week period)		Year 4 Multiplication Check
Wednesday 3rd		Sports Day
Friday 5th		PTFA Lolly Sale
Monday 8th - Friday 12th		Healthy Eating Week
Wednesday 10th	9.00am	1B Class Assembly
Friday 12 th	3.00pm	PTFA Lolly Sale
Friday 12th		Mufti for Summer Fair
Monday 15th to Friday 19th	All day	Year 6 Bikeability Group 2
Wednesday 17th	9.00am	RG Class Assembly
Friday 19th		PTFA Summer Fair
Monday 22nd - Friday 26th		Celebration of Us Week
Wednesday 24th	AM	Class photo day
Friday 26 th	3.00pm	PTFA Lolly Sale
Wednesday 1st		Move up morning
Friday 3rd	3.00pm	PTFA Lolly Sale
July		
Wednesday 8th	1.30pm	Year 6 production
Wednesday 8th	5.30pm	Year 6 production
Friday 10th	3.00pm	PTFA Lolly Sale
Friday 17th	9am	Leavers' Assembly
Friday 17th		End of term
Monday 20th		INSET Day 4
Tuesday 21st		INSET Day 5



Universal Credit Childcare Support



Helping Families with Childcare Costs

If you're claiming Universal Credit, you may be eligible to get back up to 85% of your childcare fees. You (and your partner if you live with them) will usually need to either:

- be working - it does not matter how many hours you or your partner work
- or have a job offer



For more information and eligibility details, please scan here.



Tax-Free Childcare



Get help with your childcare costs!



Get up to:

- £500 every 3 months (£2,000 a year) per child
- £1,000 every 3 months (£4,000 a year) if your child is disabled

For every £8 you pay into your online childcare account, the government adds £2 to help pay your childcare provider!

For eligibility and more information please scan:



ST JAMES
Senior School
Ashford, Surrey

Join us for our Open Morning

Thursday 7 May

9.00am - 10.30am

[Click here or scan below to book now:](#)



Be part of our exciting new chapter as we prepare to welcome girls from September 2027!

stjamesashford.co.uk

Church Road, Ashford, Surrey TW15 3DZ



Platform Sports have recently launched a new programme of football sessions at **Powerleague Sunbury**, designed to provide high-quality coaching opportunities for young players across the local area.

These sessions are open to all abilities and are built around our core philosophy: **Play. Progress. Perform.**

From first kicks through to more advanced development, we offer a clear pathway for players to enjoy and improve their football in a positive, structured environment:

Platform Player Pathway – For committed players looking to develop and perform at a higher level

Platform Wildcats – A fun, engaging introduction to football, with a focus on confidence and enjoyment

Platform Kickers – The perfect starting point for younger players new to the game

Platform Walking Football – A social, inclusive format focused on movement, enjoyment and wellbeing

As part of our commitment to supporting local schools and communities, we would like to offer pupils an **exclusive discount on all bookings** using the code below:

School Discount Code: SCHOOL10

Sign up now to secure your space - <https://platformsportscoaching.co.uk/>





ESCALATE ARTS

MAKE your mark
SHAPE your Future
LEAD through Creativity

Perform a Play in a Week

May School Holiday Workshops

With the Guildford Shakespeare Company
26 May - 29 May, Ages 10 - 14
The Library Hub, Staines-upon-Thames

Fall down the rabbit hole with Alice and GSC and discover the wild and wonderful world of **Wonderland!**

From Madhatters to Cheshire Cats, we'll bring Alice's adventure to life in a **performance** at the end of the week for family and friends.
Scan the QR code to book or visit www.surreycc.gov.uk/escalatearts



The Escalate Arts project is delivered in partnership with Surrey County Council, Spelthorne Borough Council, Ashford Youth Club and Artswork

Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

LOTTERY FUNDED




TISKA KARATE

***** Special Offer *****
**** April & May 2026 ****

2 free lessons plus free uniform for all new beginners

No Joining Fees!

Free Training App

For more information, please contact us on:

☎ **07880 491278**

✉ seb.tiska@hotmail.com

www.tiskakarate-staines.co.uk

TISKA Staines Shotokan Karate School
Eclipse Leisure Centre

New beginners' lessons every Friday throughout April & May 2026

Suitable for adults and children from the age of 4 and over

Subject to availability – Offer applies to 31st May 2026



Chief Instructor: Sergei O. Sabata, 8th Dan



POWER UP CLUB HOLIDAY CAMP

Build confidence, focus and resilience through movement

MAY HALF TERM
Monday, 25 May 2026 to Friday, 29 May 2026

10:00AM – 2:00PM
FOR CHILDREN AGED 7-11

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ✔ Structured movement sessions
- ✔ Fun games and team challenges
- ✔ Confidence and mindset activities
- ✔ Opportunities to build friendships
- ✔ Safe and supportive environment

£30 PER DAY
£120 FOR THE FULL WEEK

Limited spaces available

BOOK BY EMAIL AT: powerupclubhq@outlook.com

Location: Sunbury-on-Thames
(Exact location TBC)

Run by experienced primary school practitioner
• BSc Sport and Exercise Science

www.powerupclub.co.uk

