

Weekly Newsletter

18.07.2023



End of Year Newsletter: Bumper Edition

Part 1: Updates

School has finished: the children are shattered (hopefully!)...time to sit back with a cup of tea, relax and join us for some important updates, a celebration, and reflection, of all things 'Earith Primary School'...

Redecoration Works

We have been successful in our application for a grant:

Phase 1: Painting: Three classrooms, ICT suite, Art Bay and corridor (August)

Phase 2: Painting: Hall: (October Half Term)

Phase 3: Carpets: three classrooms, ICT suite (January approx.)

Information for Parents (Prospectus)

This important, annual document will be reviewed over summer and released to parents in early September so it's fresh in your minds. **Please ensure you read it. Key reminders, any pertinent changes and expectations for school life are shared.**

School Start Time

Official school **start time (previously referred to as 'doors open' at time) is 08:45 from September 2023.** With a finish time of 3:15pm, this ensures we meet new DFE statutory regulations for the length of the school day which comes into effect from September 2023.

Afterschool Clubs & Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club available from the first day back at school for children: **September 5th (book with Premier Sports).**

Premier Sports afterschool clubs will start again on the second week back: **September 11th.**

Attendance Policy

Please read our new attendance policy (on the website) which comes into effect from September 2023.

Responsible Reading Legend

Our fifth and final Reading Legend to complete the set was delivered on Monday – take a look on the Reading Blog to see what we got up to this time! [Link to Blog](#)

Active Learning Trust: Parents and Carers Newsletter

See just some of the highlights of our schools across the Trust:

[Click here to read the ALT Newsletter for Parents and Carers](#)

Part 2: Transition Activities & The Last Couple of Days in School

Summer Survival Pack

Released Friday just gone. Read the front sheet to know what to do. Keep it safe: chip away, a little a day. If you've finished the sheets, extend yourselves over the summer, children, with:

- The Top 100 Book List: how many have you read or have been read to you? Tick them off. How many can you source from a local library and read over summer? Now there's a challenge!
- The paper included: extra maths; write sentences, stories, handwriting; keep a summer diary...
- Who can play a little on Numbots, or a little on Rockstars a day?
- Don't forget to access your assignments on Spelling Shed, too! Can you play this, a little a day?

Dojo House Points available upon return of completed packs – based on accuracy, effort and presentation.

Summer holidays can be regressive on pupils' learning – fight this off by keeping those young minds *ticking over*.

New Reception Parents & Children: Stay & Play

Thank You to the new Reception parents and children who were able to attend the 30 minute visits to their new classroom and the Stay & Play sessions. It was lovely to start forming these crucial relationships with you and your child early on. We hope they have supported your child to feel *ready* for September.

End of Year Quizzes

Children have enjoyed their End of Year Quizzes: another opportunity for children to reactivate previously learnt knowledge from the year to date, supporting transition and readiness for the next stage.

Class Fun & Games

Thank you for the nibbles, parents. Children enjoyed playing games, playing with toys, singing and dancing across classes as part of their final afternoon in their current class, on Friday.

Year 1 – 6: Transition activities

Children across our new classes have had the opportunity to work together on multiple transition activities these past two days: there has been classes practising their new routines; discussions between children in R – 2 about how their new groupings and the curriculum will work; self-led learning by some; enhanced classroom rules by others; 5R reflection time ahead of the New Year; secret '*getting to know you games*' and All About Me puzzles. Plus, there's been our whole school transition activities – see below:

Earith Primary School Coat of Arms (Dojo House Points)

The Earith Primary School Coat of Arms, incorporating our new houses: River, Orchard, Bulwark and Bridge – but which House is your child in?

Four houses, all linked to the geography of Earith. Children will remain in these houses until the End of Key Stage Two. There will be planned opportunities throughout the next Academic Year and beyond, for us to *get together* in our houses to support school priorities and the curriculum further.

Children found out who was in their new house during our inaugural launch event in school, where special House/team-building events took place.

Our new Dojo House point system means that children are no longer just collecting dojo points for themselves, but also for their respective Houses.

But which House will win the new 'House Cup' each and every week in assembly? Find out next year!

Class Logos

Supporting just one of our school development priorities linked to the developing reading culture of our school, class names are linked to authors next year, with logos synonymous with a feature of just one of the author's books. Profiles of the books by these authors and the authors themselves, raised during Transition Day 1. Children will be studying a combination of their '*class author*' books as part of their rich reading curriculum next year. Lovely to see the children so enthused by designing these in class and as part of their transmission.

And the Winners are:

R/1: Jeffers Class: Logo Winner: Riley featuring the boy, and his star, from Oliver Jeffers' book, *How to Catch a Star*

1/2: Shireen Class: Logo Winner: Layla-Fae featuring the Nancy the fox from Nadia Shireen's book, '*Grimwood*'

3/4: Riddell Class: Logo Winner: Maya featuring Ada Goth from the '*Goth Girl*' series.

5/6: Gold Class: Logo Winner: Diana featuring the Polar Bear from the book, '*The Last Bear*'

Best Dressed Competition

And the winners for the best dressed competition Summer Theme (prizes courtesy of FOES) are...

Year 1: ElsieH

Year 2: Finley

Year 3 Amelia

Year 4: Olivia

Year 5: Freddie

Year 6: Sienna

Pool Award: Keo

Year 6 Leavers

Thank you to FOES who, once again this year, funded the Year 6 Leavers' hoodies. The children were thrilled to be given the opportunity to wear them this year, several weeks before the end of the term and since then, they've not come off! Lovely to see the 6s wear these with pride. Probably just about *ready* for a wash?!

Our Leavers have spoken extremely positively and enthusiastically about their new schools and their special transition days, many sharing the names of the new houses/forms they are in; the teachers they enjoyed spending time with, as well as the new friends they have made. Their *resilience*, positive attitude and growth mind-set – just some of the qualities we work hard to instil in our young people here at Earith Primary School – will serve them well.

In the build-up to transition week, in school, the Year 6s have been busy planning, then leading their Enterprise Event – Market Square. You will have heard from Mrs Matthews & Mrs Lawrence just how proud we are of them for all the fantastic skills they used, linked to their curriculum studies. Thank You to all the parents and children who were able to support this. The Year 6s raised over £200.

With the money, the Year 6s have worked together to further plan, prepare and purchase items for their Pool Party afternoon in the school pool and their final supper – Dominos Take Away lunch! The money was spent on a variety of themed floats and pool-party decorations.

During Transition week, the Year 6s worked creatively together in the ICT Suite to produce a joint work book, documenting their learning & knowledge on the environmental issues facing our planet – where they have been able to build upon their prior learning. This final, last unit of work is incredibly important and arguably, quite special. It means that the current Year 6s have now successfully completed their full, KS2 National Curriculum Programme of Study. That's four years' worth of hard work since Year 2, which will better prepare them for the more technical and specialist knowledge necessary for the next stage in their education – KS3.

The Year 6s enjoyed time with the Premier Sports Coach on Monday afternoon where they enjoyed various parachute games, before supporting other children in their new Houses across the school's team-building activities.

As I write, the pool party, Leavers' assembly; signing of T-shirts or take away lunch has not yet happened. We hope their last day was a success. I would say, '*and not too emotional*' but I'm sure it will be – these wonderful eight children leave their legacy: a long-lasting, positive impression on all the children and staff they have worked so closely with.

Part 3: What a Year It's Been!

Knowledge Curriculum

We have adopted a more knowledge-rich approach to curricula and it shows. Subject Leaders conduct pupil learning conversations across the year, and across all subjects. The results have been extremely pleasing. It is wonderful to see just how much knowledge our pupils have retained and are enthused to share across subjects, with our middle leaders.

Growth Mind-set & the Learning Pit

Now in its fourth year, our core values are truly engrained into school life. Children are really starting to understand the importance of positivity through a growth mind-set and show *resilience* when they fall into the Learning Pit (now in its third and second year of successful application).

Active Citizens (Jobs in School)

Now in its second year, our pupils spending their time, contributing to the smooth and safe running of our school: engaged in multiple jobs that teach our pupils key skills and responsibility. Their impact has been phenomenal –tidier and organised classrooms; an enhanced and sustained lunchtime offer, and more time for teaching & learning! Thank You, children.

Active Leaders, Active Learners, Active Citizen Awards.

Just over a year, since its implementation, an opportunity for *all* children, by the End of Key Stage Two, to show they have what it takes to meet the criteria in becoming eligible for one of these sought after badges (at least one year's worth of consistent evidence). Our aim: that every child will collect all three by the end of KS2. But the motivation must come from within. Children are starting to ask their teachers how 'on-track' they are. Some are even visiting the board to read the criteria for themselves – meta-cognition at its best. If this is you, that's super *reflection*, children. Keep up the hard work. All three could be yours one day! But don't forget, the biggest reward of all will not be the badge, it will be your journey in *personal development*.

Learning Environments

You will not be surprised to learn that big, bright & busy displays around a classroom doesn't support pupils' 'cognitive load'. Over time, you hopefully will have seen that our classrooms now support this approach, which is grounded in educational research of 'what works'. Purposeful displays and working walls that support current learning feature instead. Children can talk about how their classroom environment and its resources supports them.

Resourcefulness at its best. Corridors are now an opportunity to celebrate *all* children's work: whether it be all their writing, all their still-life paintings (examples only) but for *all* to enjoy. These will be changed cyclically during the year.

Curriculum Key Concepts

Holding Baskets of information that allow our children to start making rich connections across the curriculum, building their schema – it's starting to work! For those of you able to tune into assemblies, you will see and hear this, too. *Know more, remember more!*

Sid the Cygnet

Our school mascot and friend. Each and every week, for three years now, joining us in celebrating school life across the wider curriculum. He even has his own part of the website! Take a look and see what Sid has been up to this year alone.

Maths Mastery Curriculum

Just three more years before we reach the status of a 'Maths Mastery' School. Just finishing our second year of implementing the maths mastery curriculum, we are all very excited to see the already-emerging impact and can't wait to see our students' ability to flourish even more still.

Number Bonds & Times Tables

Lovely to see so many young children enthused by learning their number bonds, especially on Numbots in their own time, at home, and in school.

And the Heat Maps for Times Tables Year 2 – 6. We have all been really impressed with the pupils' self-awareness of their ability in fluency and their desire to 'go greener' still!

Reading Legends

Not one, not two, not three, not four, but five...yes, five themed days, mornings or afternoons all linked to our Core Values and designed to elevate the importance of our school ethos, and of course, the importance of – and spreading the love for – arguably one of the, if not **the** most important subject in school – reading! Look at the blog and see what we've achieved in one year: [LINK](#)

Book Club

Back with a bang! Each and every week, children perusing the shelves, saving money and extending their repertoire of reading at school, for home. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who give up their time to lead such an important club in school each and every week.

Book Club: The Giant Picnic

Book Club 'Plus': Thank you to Book Club for planning and leading such a wonderful event. Pupils enjoying reading the book 'The Giant Jam Sandwich' as a school, then attending the afterschool event, with lots of fun and games, and most importantly...BOOKS!

Swimming Offer

Another year, another great season. Despite all the time, energy and expense (some of it unforeseen – don't ever buy a pool yourselves!), Mrs Deili plus one, have led 95 swimming sessions in the last term – wow; that's some commitment & some achievement!

French

We're so lucky to have an in-house swimming instructor (see above) but just as lucky to have a secondary-qualified Languages Teacher, teaching high-quality French lessons to our pupils in L

& UKS2 – Merci Madame Ray. Judging by the routine French songs reverberating through my office... and outside on the field, the children enjoy it, too!

Assemblies

Our third year of filming, editing and appending assemblies for the website for people to enjoy.

Nominations coming in to reflect current learning each Thursday evening. A frantic start to Friday morning: editing, printing and laminating certificates, ready for the table at 9am (squeezing in a staff briefing before this, too!).

Photographs of children receiving weekly certificates emailed to parents to enjoy the same day and as a keepsake.

Not to mention, the Head's Awards and the Active badges, amongst other things.

It's an unrivalled offer and a big ask of me, of the team, and one person in particular – Sue. Thank You, Sue.

It genuinely is a pleasure to watch an ever-increasing amount of parents and children wishing to have their child's extra-curricular awards or efforts recognised. No matter how big or small; or whether there is a certificate or not, just make contact and give us the details – we love to share.

The Lunchtime Offer

Gazing at the chickens; constructing small Lego models, or larger Lego construction. Playing one of our refereed football matches throughout the week; shooting hoops on the basketball court; wiggling hoops around our bodies; exploring the grounds; litter-picking; dipping in and out of the gym or trim trail; scaling the pirate ship and hill; speed stacking; painting, drawing, reading, Top Trumping, or having opportunities to make friendship bracelets...

...scooters at break time...and for the wetter days inside, singing and dancing to songs on the laptop; full access to the ICT suite, laptops and ipads, games and toys from the resources cupboard...or if you are in Reception, full access to your class provision – there's so much for our pupils to do and keep busy! Lunchtimes are a treat; each and every day.

Earith Primary School Song 2:

Written by Bluebell with the Young Uns. A fabulous start to singing assemblies (and at Sports Day). New parents: why not listen to and sing with your child over Summer? A great insight into school life: our ethos & values. [LINK](#) to song

Chickens

What came first, the chicken or the... it was Elizabeth (hatched) by last year's Reception, then we got her a friend – Arabella. Then this year: current Reception hatched two more: Henrietta & Matilda. At the start of the school day, the end, or anywhere in between, children enjoying the sense of responsibility and care for our birds. Our weekend and holiday helpers also enjoying the responsibility, as well as honing their omelette skills!

Thank You to Martin (handywork) and to all our helpers & families; the children and staff for their ongoing commitment to our feathered friends. A real sense of community.

Volunteers

Our school greatly benefits, not only for the goodwill of our staff, who go above and beyond in their roles and by you, our ever-supportive parents. There are volunteers who regularly give up their time, free of charge, to improve outcomes for the young people we serve:

The Governing Body: Becs, Tim, Victoria & Jane

Friends of Earith School: Dan, Laura, Teresa, Phil, Lizzie, Kerry, Kelly, Louise & Amy

Book Club: Ann, Michelle, Nicola & Sarah

Chicken Helpers: Laura, Loraine, Becs and your Families

Pets as Therapy: Pat & Dipsy (The Reading Dog)

Weekly Support in School: Michelle & Tim

Weekly Assemblies: Open the Book: Ann & The Team

Afterschool Clubs: Gardening & Sewing: Jane & Sue

Careers, Curriculum, Enrichment: Visitors In

An amazing year, with opportunities spanning across the curriculum. Either by way of curriculum events/subjects, enrichment, or for our young people to be exposed to the wider world of work – inspiration, aspiration:

Beekeeper

Young Uns: Folk Band:

Cambridge Synagogue

Tom Kitching: Author & Musician:

Zoological Society of London

Pat & Dipsy the Reading Dog

RAF Regiment

Garden Designer

Animator

Tracey: Cambs Fit

Caterlink: Pizza Making

Sissy: Traveller Culture

Young Farmer

Stone Mason/Sculptor/Carver

Martime Careers Experience

Adrenaline Martial Arts

Illumina DNA Extraction

Charleston Dance

Earith Book Club

Infection, Prevention and Control Nurse

Community Specialist Podiatrist

Paediatric Doctor

Psychotherapists

Fireman

Educational Visits/Trips Out:

Hamerton Zoo
Peterborough Cathedral (Tudors)
Raptor Centre
Africa Alive
Meadow Farm, Bluntisham
Peterborough Cathedral (Christianity)
Hemingford Grey Manor
Holt Island & Ladybird Boat Trip
Earith Sponsored Walk

Clubs

Sewing, Gardening, Dodgeball, Football, Gymnastics, Archery, Multisport, Girls' football & Breakfast Club. Well attended again this year.

Rotary Quiz

Year 6s wowed us with their knowledge and held their own against other cohorts of Year 6 which had on average, four times the amount of brains than us!

Christmas

The whole-school sat back and relaxed with a Christmas movie. We enjoyed our Christmas lunch; Christmas parties in class (with the games we bought from the FOES 400 – thank you FOES) and a fly-by visit and present from the man himself...

...not to mention our Christmas Singalong (lovely to get the parents involved this year), Christmas performances from each class and our visit to the Woodlands Residential Home to spread a little festive cheer through the medium of song!

FOES Christmas Fayre

A superbly organised and well-planned Fayre from the FOES Team: lots of fun, as always; a good turn-out represented by many members and organisations within the community... and plenty of money raised!

FOES Discos

Be Safe, Be respectful, Be Your Best & Boogie – two in-year discos. Highly attended and highly appreciated by the children. Thank You, FOES.

FOES Bake Sales & Raffles

Always a lovely end to a busy week or term: thank you to all the parents for your support in conquering the crowds in your quest for a cupcake ...Or two! Thank You, FOES.

FOES Sponsored Dance

A non-stop sponsored dance, with one class leading seamlessly into the next! Raising vital funds for the school whilst keeping fit at the same time.

World Maths Day

Mega reasoning & problem solving, including use of the outdoors to celebrate this wonderful subject.

World Book Day

I can still recall some of the weird and wonderful characters and efforts our children (and staff) made – a celebration of literary delights!

STEM Day

Our school council said, *we did*...another opportunity to make use of the outdoors: woodlands diversity, den building and bug hotels. A chance for some practical, hands-on learning linked to Science & DT.

Egg Rolling, Decorating & Hunt

The rain may have called off the outdoor Hunt, but it didn't stop us bringing the fun indoors! Some hugely creative children, decorating their eggs, too for our annual competition. *On you marks, get set, let 'em roll*...egg rolling across classes; top rollers going through to the final roll off!

Coronation Event

Coronation medals awarded to every child by local Councillor Steve Edwards & Mandy Pink; Sewing Club's contribution to Peterborough Cathedral's Coronation Quilt (on tour); Coronation lunch and planting our Hornbeam in the grounds, in the rain, singing The National Anthem!

Healthy Week, including Sports Day

Our annual offer, elevated: time in the pool; making healthy pizzas with Caterlink; Dance & Pilates (Tracey at CambsFit); Earith Book Club and of course, Sports Day – to name but a few.

Kickstart Premier Competition

Who's got the speediest kick in school? Freddie's *ready!* As were all our pupils, giving it their all; not to mention raising key funds for the school

Sponsored Walk around Earith

What a pleasure to get out in the community and keep fit! Children solving geographical clues provided by the wonderful FOES team to get to the next check-point! Sid had a lovely birthday, too!

A truly remarkable year... In the words of the Earith Primary School Song 2...

*'Balance on the trim trail, gliding in the pool,
There's so much we can celebrate at Earith Primary
school'...*

Curriculum Excitement: 2023/2024

What's in store for next year? Well, if this year is anything to go by...plenty! We're all very excited about next year's curriculum development and the opportunities that will rise within these ...you'll just have to wait, children!

Donations (Time & Money): Thank You, Parents, Volunteers, FOES

There has been a handful of organisations, and individuals who have also made financial contributions to our school: Mr & Mrs Fox; Skeeles, Haddenham Steam Rally, St Ives Rotary Club, as well as other, private, donators. These contributions have supported us by providing new and exciting resources for our pupils, especially in terms of restocking and purchasing *beautiful* books for our library. Thank You so much.

Aside from all the wonderful work by the likes of FOES and our volunteers (as described), there are always parents from different professions & trades, making offers of support linked to their area of expertise, or simply wanting to lend a hand; attend events or get involved with sponsorship, or school life more generally. Whether monetary, or in *time* (arguably one of the most precious resources of all) we really appreciate you, the parents: going out of your way to support our school. Our staff is very lucky to know and work with such a kind and considered cohort of parents. On behalf of all the staff, thank you – this time of year, the staff room starts to flood with thank you cards and sweet treats...it really is quite humbling. Thank You so much.

Governing Body & Active Learning Trust

I feel extremely lucky and proud to be part of a Trust and Governing Body with expertise, that not only provides support for this school, it also provides healthy challenge – challenge designed with one, and only one aim: to improve outcomes for pupils.

Staff

I'm not sure where to start, so I'll just say this to the Team: your commitment & dedication to this school is unquestionable; your tolerance of me, even more so! Thank you for being *you!*

To the most important people of all

You're the reason I – and every other member of staff – *spring* out of bed each and every morning. You're the motivation for continuously seeking to improve our school. You bring us happiness every day because you are so special.

Have a lovely summer, children and be *ready* for another great year ahead.

See you on September 5th.

And for you Year 7s, there's no need for us to wish you luck – you don't need it...you're more than *ready*.

Head Teacher Awards



This half term: 18.07.2023

Daffodil Class: Jessica, Paddy

Thistle Class: Evelyn, Jessie

Bluebell Class: Oliver R, Lucas

Dahlia Class: Georgina, Riley



Attendance Matters



100% Attendance = 100% Learning!

Winning class for year 2022/2023

Class: Daffodil 96.75%

Whole School: % 95.16

Community News and
Events this week: - click
[HERE](#)



Please see Sid the
Cygnet on his website
page – click [HERE](#)

Reading Blog [HERE](#)

Celebration Awards Assemblies - click [HERE](#)



Ready Robert



**Resilient
Rosie**



**Resourceful
Roy**



**Reflective
Rhianna**



**Responsible
Ruben & Ruby**