

Issue 044 28th September 2018

Ermine Street Church Academy Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a packed Newsletter full of colour thanks to the weather and the various learning and play that's been going on at Ermine Street. The photograph below is worthy of a Newsletter on its own. Hopefully, you've also gained a real insight into school life and Thunderbolt class through our podcast. It has been listened to more than 100 times already and is still available on the front page of our website and via our Twitter feed. The second one will be out in November.

Next week is a major one in our history—we will break the 100 children barrier! To celebrate this big occasion the children will be treated to a special Collective Worship on Tuesday morning. Then on Wednesday we have our Harvest Festival (all welcome) and our individual photographs (please refer to the e-mail Mrs Mathews sent out today for more details about them).

You may well have seen the metal frame that has been constructed on the field near to Thunderbolt class. This will be finished next week and will become a large polytunnel. The children will then be able to pot on plug plants to fill the large planters and then grow fruit and vegetables for the kitchen and to sell in the Spring. Funding from Morris homes has made this possible. We hope the children love getting their hands dirty.

On the 16th October at 7pm the Friends of ESCA will be holding their first AGM as we are at the start of a new year. This brief meeting is a chance for them to share their many successes since they were formed less than a year ago. It is also an opportunity for anyone to join them. Offers of help, however large or small, are always warmly welcomed.

With best wishes,

Mr Adrian Shepherd
Headteacher



What happens when you put a pallet outside a classroom? You get a group of singers giving an impromptu performance and an audience (a quite large one) gathers to watch! That's exactly what happened outside Hercules Class today at break time, where an extension to the reading raft was placed after requests from the children ... it was a wonderful thing to see ... and hear!

Harvest Festival and School Photographs on Wednesday

Thunderbolt

This week Thunderbolt have been making breakfast...we have made toast and tasted tea! We have also been working together to make dens – some of them even stayed up when the wind started to blow. Today we have drawn and labelled pictures of our Mums. We thought really hard about faces and bodies – they are all looking fantastic! Another busy week, and a well-deserved rest needed over the weekend, ready to start again on Monday.



Hercules (photos on next page)

Hercules have started to look at the way different artists create images of the sea. We have looked at 'The Great Wave' by the Japanese artist Hokusai and had a go, experimenting with different media and techniques to create our very own images.

In our Literacy learning this week, Hercules class have been writing about a perilous journey on the sea. To help gain a feel for what it might be like on board a yacht, struggling through waves in a storm, we turned ourselves into waves charging towards sailors on a boat (a bench!). The genuine screams that could be heard as 'waves' reached the 'boat', showed that it was quite an effective re-enactment! The resulting writing, was just as powerful and effective.

And Hercules have enjoyed their first two weeks of table tennis training with Mr Facey who runs the Stukeley club.



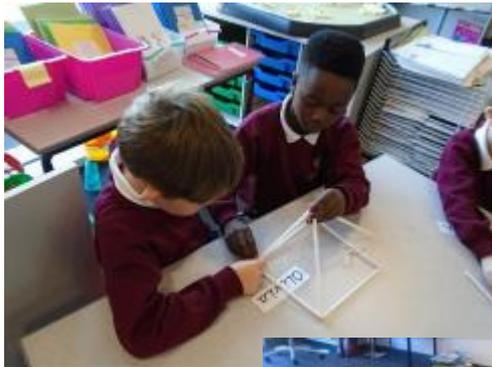
Tornado & Dakota (photos on next page)

Over the last couple of weeks Tornado and Dakota have continued voyaging around the world and have found themselves in Egypt. We have loved exploring the mysterious tombs of ancient Kings and Queens, and we have especially enjoyed learning about the gory parts! We have created our own pyramids out of sugar cubes and straws and even written our names in hieroglyphics.

Our English learning has also been linked to Egypt. Year 1 continue to work on punctuating sentences but are also joining some of their ideas together now. Year 2 have focused on joining their sentences together using a wider range of conjunctions. We have practised 'fanboy' (for, and, nor, but, or yet) sentences for the first time. Year 3 have been writing in character and their persuasive pieces on why you should visit Egypt were amazing. Miss Roberts and Mrs McBride had their bags ready and were raring to go!

The photographs also include some of Dakota learning how to send polite, friendly e-mails. We use some software called PurpleMash that includes many tools and enables the children to only send e-mails to each other, nothing goes beyond the classroom.

Thank you to those of you who have started to bring in shirts/aprons for art we look forward to trying them out next week.



Get Active On Alconbury Weald

The first led walk that One Leisure will be holding is next Wednesday at 2pm, meeting opposite The Club building.

If this is a little too short notice, then the following date is 5th December.

For more information go to:

<http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/3504/health-walks-brochure-sep-18-feb-19.pdf>

Dates For Your Diary (new dates and changes in bold)

3rd October, 9am

Harvest Festival at school. Parents welcome. Donations of dry and tinned food for the local Food Bank warmly welcomed.

3rd October

Children's photographs—individual and sibling groups.

4th October, 3.30pm

Grafham residential meeting for Year 5 & 6 children and parents.

4th October, 6pm

Sawtry Village Academy Open Evening for current Year 6.

16th October, 7pm

Friends of ESCA AGM—everyone welcome. Come and hear all about the great achievements of 2017-18.

18th October, 8am

Big Breakfast. Join us for toast, cereal and bacon sandwiches and some quality time together. This is a fundraising event.

19th October

Teacher training day. Hangar Club open.

22nd-26th October

Half-term.

30th October, 8.45am

Prayer Group.

30th October

Parents' Evening—Thunderbolt, Tornado and Dakota.

31st October—2nd November

Year 5 and 6 Grafham residential trip.

6th November

Parents' Evening—all classes.

9th November

Parents' Evening—Hercules only.

13th November, 8.40am

Coffee morning.

28th November, 8.45am

Prayer Group.

7th December, 9am

Hercules Production

14th December, 2.15pm

Tornado and Dakota Christmas Production

14th December

Carols Around The Tree. 5.45pm Christmas drinks at The Club

and then walk to school or meet there for carols at 6.30pm.

19th December, 2pm

Christingle.

19th December

Last day of the Autumn term.

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