



Ebchester Church of England Primary School Newsletter

www.ebchester.durham.sch.uk

Dear Parent,

As we race through the summer term (we only have 2 weeks left until half term), we are pleased to start reintroducing some of our after school clubs. Hopefully, this is the start of the school day returning to normal – fingers crossed.

Class Information

Reception

This week we have been doing lots of work about the class text, Supertato - Carnival Catastro-pea. Our activities have included creating our own superhero fruit and vegetables and writing sentences discussing different points of the story. On Friday, children will be doing some fruit tasting. In preparation for this, children will be writing a list of fruits that children would like to try. We might even have a few exotic fruits on the list. In maths, we have been working on counting on from a number. We have played lots of games to help support children's learning. Children might like to show you their new skills they have been learning by playing a counting game at home. On Monday, children enjoyed a tennis session with a coach from Shotley Bridge. Children listened really well to their instructions and had lots of fun taking part. We've had another great week working on our project 'Are Carrots Orange?' Children have been doing lots of weighing, investigating vegetables and fruits that float and sink and working in our role play fruit shop. Great work Reception. Have a lovely weekend. **Mrs Aspell – Key Person**

Year 1

In Year One, we have been working hard on our word processing skills to produce some excellent party invitations using different fonts and sizes. On Monday, children enjoyed their tennis taster session outside, and during Forest School created scaly dragons using chalk on tree bark. We have been planting sunflower seeds in class for the school competition, which Year 1 feel hopeful they will win after their success growing bean plants in science last term. **Ms Fernandez**

Year 2

Year 2 have been enjoying their Geography topic all about Saltburn-by-the sea. They have learned about what human and physical features are, identified these features from maps and photographs of Saltburn and are using this knowledge today to write guides about what there is to see and do there. In Science, we have been setting up an experiment to see whether cress plants need sunlight to grow healthily by putting some in the classroom and some in a dark cupboard. We have been amazed to see how quickly the ones in the class have started growing! **Miss Edmunds**

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Year 3 and 4

As always, we have had a busy week in Year 3/4. On Monday, we thoroughly enjoyed our tennis taster session with Tennis is Served. Who knows we might just have the next Andy Murray in our class! On Tuesday, we started planning a local litter pick for PSHE and are very much looking forward to doing this next week. On Wednesday, we finished off our Big Write of the week- stories with humour. I cannot wait to read these stories and hear what the children's own version of David Walliams' Midnight Gang get up to. On Thursday, we celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week by taking part in a Mental Health Champions workshop. Followed by some mindfulness yoga in PE on Friday. Enjoy the weekend! **Miss Rogers**

Year 5 and 6

This week, Class One have been learning about parliament and politics in the UK. On Tuesday, we had an online session with parliament in which we learnt about the House of Commons, House of Lords, how laws are made in the UK and how to elect MPs. The children found this very interesting and we spent time in school thinking about issues that are important to us and what we would like to happen in the future. On Friday, we welcomed the MP for our area, Richard Holden, into school to meet our class. He told us about his life and job and then he answered questions from us for almost an hour! We asked him some tough, political questions such as, "What are your views on the Derwent Walk being turned back into a railway?", "What are you doing about littering in the area?", "What are you doing to tackle dog theft in the area?" and "Have you ever voted on laws that tackle scamming online?" We also asked some more light-hearted questions such as, "What's your favourite car?", "Have you ever owned a reptile?" and "What's your favourite film?" The children of Class One all enjoyed the visit and thought that Mr Holden answered their questions well. Some children are now even considering a career in politics! **Mr Carr**

Maths Homework – Y3 to Y6

We will be using Mathletics to restart maths homework across the junior classes from today. All pupils in Year 3 to Year 6 will be allocated tasks on a Friday to be completed by the following Friday. Pupils have been given their passwords but please email school if you need another copy. If you have any issues with internet access, please get in touch

St Ebba's Visit – Y5/6

On Tuesday 18th May, the pupils in Y5/6 will be visiting St. Ebba's Church to talk about Pentecost with Father John.

After School Clubs

We are beginning to reintroduce our after-school clubs over the next few weeks. We hope that the clubs are well attended and, of course, all of the clubs are free.

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Monday – Tennis Club with Shotley Bridge Tennis Club (Y3/4) starting on 7th June

Tuesday – Tennis (2 weeks) then Football (next half term) with Mr Collingwood (5/6) starting on 18th May

Wednesday – Multi-skills with Active Future (Y1/2) starting on 12th May

Playground Leader Training (Y4)

Our Y4 pupils will be taking part in Playground Leader training on the morning of Monday 17th May and Friday 21st May. The training will support them in leading younger pupils in structured, fun games at lunchtime and breaktime. The Playground Leaders are taught skills such as communication, fair play and organising groups/teams. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit available in school.

Y3/4 Littler Picking

As part of their PSHE curriculum, the pupils in Y3/4 will be taking part in a litter pick in Ebchester on Thursday 20th May. As part of the task, they will learn that they have different kinds of responsibilities at home, school and in the community. The pupils have also been reading 'What a Waste' by Jess French, and this has inspired the children to look after our local environment. Pupils will be provided with gloves and litter grabbers.

International School Award – Foundation Level

I am pleased to tell you that Ebchester School has been awarded Foundation level of the British Council's prestigious International School Award in recognition of its work to bring the world into the classroom. The International School Award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need for life and work in today's world. As you can imagine, we are incredibly proud to achieve this award.



International School Award

Certificate

This is to certify that

Ebchester C of E Primary School

has achieved

Foundation level
Introducing internationalism


Kate Ewart Biggs
Interim Chair Executive, British Council



Mental Health Champions

Congratulations to all of our junior pupils (Y3-Y6) who are now Mental Health Champions. Yesterday they took part in mental health training led by One Goal and discussed the four ways we can all boost our mental health: think positively, move more, connect with others and do healthy things.

Active Future Clubs – Held in School Hall

Dodgeball

New dodgeball sessions are starting on Wednesday 26th May (5.30-6.30) at Ebchester Primary School. The sessions are delivered by Active Future Durham and are open to children 6-12 years old. If your child is

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interested in trying something new or just wants to keep active and have fun with their friends, why not register your child's interest by following the link below and Active Future Durham will be in touch to book them in for two free taster sessions.

<https://www.afdodgeball.co.uk/ebchester-eoi>

Free Play

FREE PLAY is a way of getting kids playing. It is aimed at providing children with the opportunity to sample and play as many sports and activities as possible. Children get to choose their own provision, playing what they want to play meaning each session is totally different. Some will play traditional sports such as football, basketball and tennis, whilst others will adapt these sports creating and playing games such as football tennis. Other sessions could be full of chase and tag games such as bulldog but every session is high tempo, good old fashioned, fun filled play. If you think your child would enjoy FREE PLAY sessions then why not register your child's interest by following the link below and Active Future Durham will be in touch to book them in. (This club is chargeable).

<https://www.activefuture.info/ebchester-freeplay>

Again, the sessions are held in the school hall and sessions start on Wednesday 26th May from 6.30-7.30. Delivered by Active Future Durham, the session is open to 6 to 12-year olds.

For more information about both clubs, or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the coach direct on: nicole.mcevoy@activefuture.info or 07801229275

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Clasper
Headteacher

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