

Welcome:

Another month draws to a close and we are all still in tact and continuing to keep things as “normal” as possible for all the children at EPS. Particularly well done to all the children in Reception who had to endure a period of self-isolation, we were really impressed with how much learning they got through, getting on line through Google Classroom and accessing the activities from there each day - well done (to Mums/Dads and carers too). Thank you also for all your support in sticking to the protocols that we have put in place through our risk assessments, especially when we have to make the decision to isolate a bubble. We really do appreciate all of your support and kind messages - thank you.

We are all looking forward to the last three weeks of term and hoping to fit in as many festive activities as we possibly can whilst continuing to ensure our usual high standards of teaching and learning.



Bikeability:

Children in Year 6 have been participating in bikeability training Levels 1 and 2. The sessions start in the playground, concentrating on being “pedal ready”, checking equipment, starting and stopping, hand signalling, looking behind and controlling speed. Once the instructors are satisfied of the skills on the bike (and the ability to listen and react to instructions), it is time to head out onto the roads. Everyone is talked through positions on the road, various different junctions, turns, priorities, where to look and what to do. We consider this to be such important learning for the children and are delighted that so many children “sign up for it”. We were very lucky with weather conditions in week 1 and just hope the same will be true for the second week of training. Thanks very much to the teams of instructors from Cycle North who do such a good job with our children.



Christmas is coming!:



To let everyone know what our plans are for Christmas in school this year: Each class/year group have been rehearsing a **Christmas Song** that will be filmed and then edited before being sent home for parents/ carers/ grandparents and friends to enjoy. This will come in the form of a link and will be sent via school email. Please do not share these films on social media, but send the link to others to enjoy.

Christmas Cards: Any cards from home to class members can come into school and be placed in a box in the classroom to be quarantined - these will then be distributed at the end of each week. Any cards, decorations, crafts that are made in school will be quarantined for 48 hours before coming home. Printed Cards designed by the children will be coming home this week., having been quarantined over the weekend in school.

The EPTFA have various activities planned for the last couple of weeks of term, including a “click and collect” style **Christmas Fair** where you can order seasonal essentials such as reindeer dust etc. This will take place on the stage area after school from Monday 7th- Friday 11th December. Please visit www.pta-events.co.uk/eptfa to pre-order.

The EPTFA committee have generously agreed to purchase an online **pantomime**, Jack & the Beanstalk, starring Peter Duncan. The children will watch this during the last week of term. Anyone needing to self isolate will be sent the link so that they can watch at home too. There will also be a **class gift** purchased by the EPTFA for each class throughout school - thank you EPTFA.

Some of you may like to take part in the “**Where’s Edwin?**” quiz that can be found by clicking on this link: <https://forms.gle/B7SiuciqAv5vq4Fr8>

We know that this is not quite the same as previous years although we will do everything we can to ensure that the magic of this time of year is just as special as all the others.

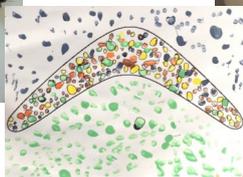


Artwork:

With parents/carers not allowed in school at the moment it is very difficult to let everyone know about the wonderful work that the children are producing, especially in Art. Here are pictures of examples of work



from each year group.



Snowflake Superheroes :

Thank you so much to everyone who has got involved with the Superhero Challenge raising money for the Sheffield Children's Hospital Snowflake Appeal. So far we have raised a massive £842 which will make sure that the name of Ecclesall Primary School will be shining brightly amongst many others this Christmas. There is still time to challenge yourself to be a Superhero; walk, run, scoot or bike a challenging distance, take a photo to send to gwillatt@ecclesall.sheffield.sch.uk to be included in a social media film and then donate to:



www.justgiving.com/fundraising/epssuperheros



Ian Grayson:

It is tinged with sadness that we say "farewell" to Ian after 23 years working at Ecclesall. Many parents will know him as the face of Ecclesall Kids Club - his calm manner and care for the children, mixed with a sense of fun and wry humour make him the perfect person to provide a home-from-home atmosphere at the club. Ian also worked for Taylor Shaw, the school catering company, serving up many 1000s of school dinners over the years he has been with us. The many comments on our Facebook post are testament to the high regard that Ian is held in throughout the Ecclesall community. We wish him all the best as he opens his own café "The Cobfather café" 17-19 Rectory Road, Clowne, S43 4BH. Ian would love to see anyone connected with Ecclesall at the café. Ian would also like to thank the children and parents for all their well wishes and gifts."



A helping hand:

We are very proud of Sophie, who has been helping her Mum (Anna) to deliver food parcels to those most in need since half term. Many of you will have seen the article in The Star newspaper, explaining her reasons why it is so important to help out others during these difficult times.



Read more: <https://www.thestar.co.uk/news/people/sheffield-mum-shares-heartbreaking-reason-shes-feeding-school-children-beyond-half-term-3024999>

Advent:



Our "Reverse Advent Calendar" is designed to remind children to think

of others as they themselves prepare for Christmas. This year we are collecting items for the S6 Foodbank who provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food packages and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. For further details of the charity please [click](#) on their logo above. Each day from Tuesday 1st December please place your donations in the box on the stage area of the playground and we will make sure your donations are received.

Coming Up:

December: Value = **Peace**

Tues 1/12: Start of Advent Collection for S6 Foodbank

Fri 4/12: Snowflake Switch on @ Sheffield Children's Hospital. Click [here](#) from 6pm to watch live.

Mon 7/12 - Fri 11/12: EPTFA Click & Collect-Christmas Fair

Fri 18/12: End of Term

Mon 4/1: Return to School

<http://ecclesallprimary.co.uk>