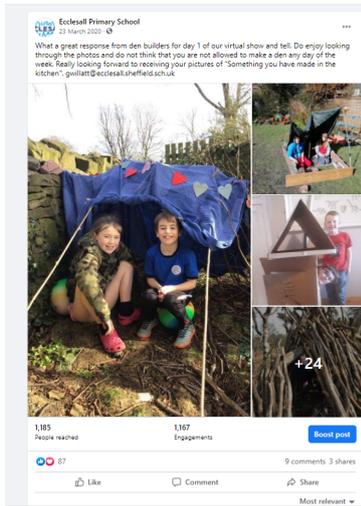


Welcome:

Anniversaries are always a time for reflection and it seems impossible to think that 12 months ago we were opening school during the Easter Holidays so that the children of Key Workers could be looked after while their parents continued to deliver essential services during the first National Lockdown. Although a global pandemic is inevitably going to be a tough time for people of any age to cope with, we have, as a school community, been unfaltering in our determination to remain positive. We have had to adapt to an ever changing set of guidance (often at short notice). We have introduced whole new ways of remote teaching and learning and have spent time enhancing the physical school environment. We have also shared 1000's of photographs on social media of all the great things that the children have been getting up to.

We are so proud of all the children and would also like to thank all the parents, grandparents and other members of our community who have worked so hard, in extreme circumstances, to keep "all the plates spinning". Your efforts have not gone unnoticed or unrecognised by everyone at Ecclesall Primary School. Thank you. We now hope that everyone gets to enjoy some time with their families over Easter and look forward to a Summer Term where, with any luck, restrictions will continue to be gradually lifted.

The photo at the top of this page is a screenshot of our first Virtual Show & Tell 23/3/2020 - Den Building.



World Book Day:



As if children at Ecclesall ever need an excuse to dress up! World Book Day was a great reason to dress up as a book character and this year we introduced a new twist through a "Masked Reader" element. There were some great photos of children reading as well as disguised teachers reading aloud.

Thank you also to all those children

who took part in the sponsored read, organised by the EPTFA - you raised a whopping £497, well done.

The main aim of World Book Day is to encourage reading and we hope that reading and stories are an activity that all children at EPS enjoy and engage with regularly, not just on WBD!



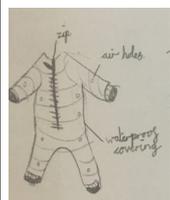
Y5 Art:



Powerful Manga style art by Y5 based on their work in English on The Highwayman Poem by Alfred Noyes. They have really captured the characters of the unnamed Highwayman and Bess as she "Watches for him by moonlight".

Y4 Inventions:

Y4 were challenged to create an invention - we particularly liked these two:



A watch that can detect feelings and make suggestions based on the wearer's mood and a padded suit protecting children as they learn to walk/scoot or ride a bike - very thoughtful scientists!

This watch can sense feelings such as sadness and will come up with a way to fix it. Then once you have returned to happy, the screen on your watch will return to a normal screen showing the time and how many steps you have done.



EPTFA:

Working hard in the background to raise additional funds for school are, as always, the Ecclesall Parents' Teachers' Friends' Association. They have recently assisted with the running of online cook-a-long, online yoga sessions, Mothers' Day gifts, adult quiz night, the World Book Day sponsored read and the Easter Egg Hunt. They are currently working closely with the school to try to find a safe way of delivering events (and fundraising opportunities) for the Summer Term. The EPTFA have provided funds to purchase 2 defibrillators, 1 is already installed inside school and the other will be positioned at the main entrance to school for use by anyone within the community. The EPTFA have also donated funds towards Hoodies for our Y6 Leavers as well as pledged some money towards development of a new Woodland area. Thank you.



Y2 Science:

The children in Y2 have been learning all about habitats. They were asked to test out and provide evidence for:



“Where do woodlice like to live?”

Having first found some woodlice in the wildlife garden, the children set about testing out different environments. It turned out that woodlice seem to like dark, damp places such as in compost heaps, under stones or in rotting wood.



Wheely Wednesday:

As part of our commitment to active travel and through our work with Modeshift Stars, we have been encouraging the children and families to try biking or scooting to school at least once a week. “Wheely Wednesday” has proved to be a real success and our bike shed and scooter parks have been



packed out on Wednesdays, even when the weather has been less than ideal for biking or scooting. We have seen an increase week on week and have been reporting the results to Modeshift Stars as we continue to work towards the next accreditation.

We also met up virtually with Dame Sarah Storey, who is the Active Travel Commissioner for the Sheffield region, to put to her our ideas about how to encourage even greater participation.



Wellbeing Wall:

We have continued to place well-being and mental health at the very top of our school priorities and we are gradually creating more and more spaces that children can learn differently or just take time out in. This wonderful painting (and related activities) were created by Mrs Kent in the Y1 group room - so much to see and think about. Thank



you also to Lowe's Paint Supplies and the Fine Paint Company for their generous donations of materials.



Coming Up:

Thurs 1 April: Last day of term (Dress as You Please)
Mon 19 April: Return to School for Summer Term

Please also see our parents' calendar here:

<https://ecclesallprimary.co.uk/calendar/>

