

Welcome:

It is always exciting to return to school after a holiday to find that planned work/improvements to the site have taken place. We have found that the astro turf outside the Y3 classrooms has been a particular hit with the children. The development of the "Enchanted Garden Trail" is coming along outside the Y1 and EYFS classrooms. Mrs Lucas, along with the pupil voice team, have sourced a number of fruit trees from "One Planet Matters" that have now been planted in this area - thanks to the parents who assisted with the planting. The children have been involved in the planting of bulbs in the planters by the storage containers on the front drive, all ready for a colourful Spring. The prospect of warmer weather after half term always brings with it increased opportunities for enhancing school life and the environment even further and we look forward to making the most of it. Please do keep an eye on our [parent calendar](#) for up-coming activities and our [website galleries](#) for photos of events.



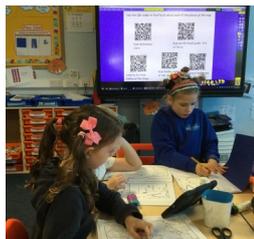
EPTFA Crazy Hair Day:



On Friday 21st January we went crazy with our hair styles, raising money for the EPTFA. A great, fun event and so much creativity on show (as well as glitter, hair dye and accessories). Even those isolating at home managed to take part as they sent in photos shared with their classes.

Y3 Torah Scrolls:

The children in Y3 have made Torah Scrolls which have included information to "teach" their parents about Judaism. They started their Egyptian topic by making a human timeline with each child representing 100 years to show how far back in time the Ancient Egyptians lived. They have also used QR codes to research landmarks in Ancient Egypt.



SEND Update:

In November 2021 I had the pleasure of monitoring the learning in classrooms, it was great to see good engagement and participation and the children who have additional needs being well supported in a wide variety of ways (such as word mats, visual timetables, seating plans, scaffolding learning, personalisation, adult support, interventions and so on). We are always looking for how we can further improve provision at school. The Education Endowment Foundation states how "An inclusive school removes barriers to learning and participation... To a great extent, good teaching for pupils with SEND is good teaching for all." With this in mind we have purchased many more resources for classrooms to support the learning of all children.

Small adaptations can make a big difference!

Moveable barriers and ear defenders can help reduce distractions and aid concentration.

Kick bands on chairs and wobble cushions provide sensory feedback and can aid concentration.

Recordable 'talking tins' can be used in lots of ways, children can verbally record their ideas and be more independent in writing their ideas.

Timers can be used to help children focus and help with the transitions between tasks.

Personalised resources such as timetables, now/next boards can aid focus and productivity and reduce anxiety.

Throughout school, brain breaks/movement breaks are used regularly to help the give sensory breaks and help the children to focus.

In classes the children will be learning about how we are all similar and different in different ways, and about how different resources can help us with our learning.

Some of these approaches might also help at home for home learning.

Updates for parents of children with additional needs:

For a list of support groups for SEND [CLICK HERE](#).

Information about support and services for children and young people with SEND [CLICK HERE](#).

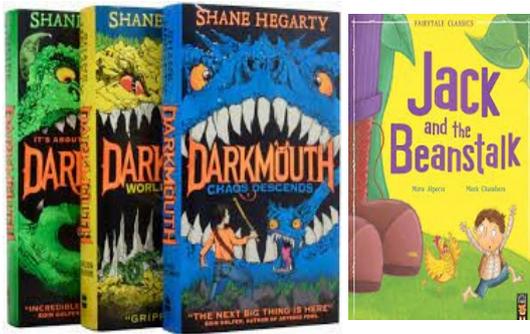
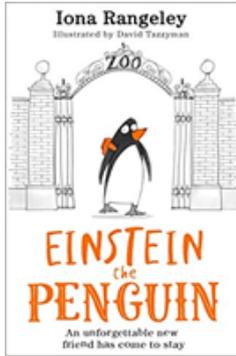
Family Support Information Day – (4th March); Parents of children with SEND will be able to talk to representatives from a wide range of services, including SSENDIAS, SNIPS, Mencap, Family Fund, Autism Team, MAST and many more [CLICK HERE](#).

Sheffield's Parent Hub runs seminars, discussion groups and programmes to give parents practical help and advice. Some have been specifically developed for families of children and young people with SEND [CLICK HERE](#).



Focus on Reading:

As EPS, we love reading for pleasure. Taking time with a book can be both calming and enjoyable. Our Ecclesall Reading Champions all love to spend time reading and have been thinking about books that they would like to recommend to their classmates. Carter in Y6, loves to read before school and it helps him "zone out" before he goes to bed. He recommends a series of books called Darkmouth by Shane Hegarty, which are about a boy who ends up being a reluctant monster hunter. Nathan in YR is really enjoying Jack and the Beanstalk because "it's exciting"; he loves learning new words in books. Martha in Y3 recommends Einstein the Penguin by Iona Rangeley because he is "funny and clever and does lots of incredible things". Martha loves learning new things from texts she reads. Look out for more recommendations from our



EPS Reading Champions. Which book would you recommend to your friends?

Y5 Netball:

The Y5 girls had their first taste of competitive netball when they played in the SFSS U10 tournament hosted by Sheffield Girls' School. They found the group stages tough but kept at it and came away with 2 wins in their last 2 games. Their skills and team work really improved throughout the tournament - well done. Thank you particularly to Miss Lloyd for her work with the team.



Bouldering:

A fantastic afternoon climbing and bouldering at The Climbing Works. We'll have to wait and see if any of our Spidermen/women get through to the next round once all

other schools have had the chance to complete their heats. Thank you to Mrs Earl for organising it and taking the children.



KS2 Cross Country:



The cross country season started again with a chilly but bright visit to Norfolk Park - (rearranged from November due to snow). A slightly reduced turnout for Team EPS as well as from other schools saw some great results and lots of personal best finishing positions.

Y6 Enterprise:

For the Y6 business people of the future, the slightly hectic market place last week was the culmination of board meetings, product design, market research, profit & loss spreadsheets, advertising, securing funding through presentations including % pay back, manufacturing and then calculating their take home (minus a donation to charity too). Lord Sugar need look no further for his next apprentice!



Y2 Victorian Day:

Stepping back in time to Victorian days. Writing on slates, drawing and handwriting, washing and scrubbing, playing with hoops and sticks and of course, very strict teachers (with a cane and dunce cap)! Bringing learning to life.



Coming Up: February 2022

- Sat 5: KS2 Cross country @ Longley Park 9.30am
- Sat 5: Orienteering @ Norfolk Park 12.30pm- 3.00pm
- Mon 7: Children's Mental Health Week
- Wed 9: Y3 Ancient Egypt History Alive
- Wed 9: Y6 Visit Crucial Crew
- Fri 11: Dress As You Please Day
- Mon 14 - Fri 18: Half Term Holiday
- Wed 23: Wheely Wednesday
- Sat 26: KS2 Cross Country @ Graves Park 9.30am

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