

Colne Engaine Catch Up

Remembering and making memories

November 17th 2021



We were delighted to welcome a few friends and residents from the village for a special Remembrance Day lunch with our Year 6 pupils last week. Mrs Scillitoe and her team cooked a feast of roast beef and Yorkshire puds, as well as apple crumble made with our school apples! We were proud Year 6 for being fantastic hosts and we were delighted to receive lots of lovely messages from our guests to say how much they enjoyed the occasion, including one that simply said

'the children who sat with me were just so engaging and interesting; they lifted my spirit'



Our footballers had a brilliant time at the Essex small schools final recently; they were awesome! The smallest of 18 schools.... and we came 3rd! Well done Team CEPS!

Our dodgeball team had great fun too when they went to Ramsey this week. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school too!



Our Learning Buddy BEN has been a great help in supporting our children to have a positive attitude and strong growth mindset.

Our WOW awards celebrate examples of learning where the children have demonstrated great learning behaviours, such as sticking at it even when it's hard, or refining their work with careful editing.

Our recent WOW winners are Louie, Ava K, Archie, Frankie, Teddie M, Millie, Max L, Joshie, Jenson, Olly, Ellie, Brooklynn, Stanley B, Rose, Dexter, Amberlie, Max E, Freddy, George, Aiden, Archie, Ivy, Freddie E, Scarlett, Penelope, Hamish. Ava L, Florence, Emily C, Jasmine – well done everyone!



Our ERICER Tree

As you know, our school ethos is deeply rooted in our core Christian values; Empathy, Respect, Integrity, Compassion, Equality and Responsibility. Our children are fantastic at using and recognising 'ERICER' behaviours, which they understand to be the crucial ingredients needed to 'make a difference' in the world. Our ERICER awards celebrate and acknowledge examples of kind,

compassionate and fair behaviours. One child from each class each week receives an ERICER leaf award, which is added to the tree in the hall.

Our most recent ERICER awards go to Riley, Hamish, Amelia, Daisy-Mae, Isaac and Teddie M. Well done!



*Imagine how excited we were when some of our children found some treasure in our school grounds!
Herbert is busy being an historical detective now...
we'll keep you posted on what he finds out!*

Covid Contingencies

We continue to work hard with our measures in school to keep our community safe and to reduce the impact of covid on our children's learning. We are grateful to you all for your continued support – including your vigilance in checking for symptoms and testing where necessary. Understandably we have increased levels of absence and illness – but our teaching teams are working hard to help children to catch up and enjoy their learning. Hand washing, extra cleaning and wide open windows and doors are still part of our every day routines – and all staff test twice weekly.

In spite of all of these measures, we continue to have positive cases popping up from time to time. We will let you know when this happens – and if there is a positive PCR test, we will let families of children in that class know – and request that you take your child for a PCR test too, so that we can try to limit any spread of the virus.

With this in mind, we have decided that we need to think carefully about our Christmas Service in the church this year, since we don't think anyone would thank us if this event in the last week of term led to families having to self isolate over Christmas. For this reason we have decided that our service this year will go ahead for the children – **but we shall only be able to invite the parents/carers of the children in Year 6 and Oak Tree class**, in order to limit numbers crammed in at the back of the church. The reason for these year groups being chosen is that it is the last Christmas service for Y6 and they will be sharing readings, whilst the youngest children will create a tableau as the Christmas story unfolds, for the rest of our children to enjoy.

We do hope you will understand our reasons for this decision – we are disappointed not to welcome everyone, as this is such a special occasion – but we are doing our best to get the right balance between ensuring our children have a lovely time and make some special memories, whilst making some difficult decisions in order to protect families too.

Reverse Advent Calendar and foodbank collection.

We are pleased to support Daisy Mae again this year, who is collecting donations to make up some hampers of essential goods and treats for families in need. We shall be leaving a box out in the porch from the beginning of December and invite you to contribute. Please look out for her posters in a couple of weeks.

Doug McKenzie, one of our former governors and a friend and supporter of our school has also asked us to share the Earls Colne Church reverse advent calendar information – Apologies ... I'm a little late in sharing, but every little bit we can do will help! Please find below a list of suggested items that could be donated. Please take your boxes to Earls Colne Recreation Club by Sunday 5th December so Doug can take them to Halstead Food Bank on Monday 6th December

1	2	3	4	5
Baby Wipes	Conditioner	Deodorant	Pet food	Shampoo
6	7	8	9	10
Shower Gel	Soap	Toothbrushes	Toothpaste	Washing Detergent gel
11	12	13	14	15
Washing-up Liquid	Chocolate Bars	Chocolate Biscuits	Christmas chocolates	Christmas Pud (small)
16	17	18	19	20
Crisps (6-pack)	Custard	Dried pasta	Instant Mash	Long Life Fruit Juice (1L)
21	22	23	24	25
Long Life Milk (1L)	Packet Soups	Pasta Sauce	Sponge Puddings	Sugar (500g)
26	27	28	29	30
Tea Bags (40 if poss)	Tinned Fruit	Tinned Meat	Tinned Ready Meals	Tinned Spaghetti

Our School Council have been busy helping us to find out how our children feel about all sorts of things... we ran a huge whole school meeting to get our children thinking. Here are some of the responses – we were so proud of how they worked together and gave us some real insight into how they feel. Here are a couple of examples.



We asked – ‘What do you do when learning gets tricky?’

Our children said “use the working walls, try again, ask a teacher/ friend, use BEN skills, put your hand up, start again, move on and go back to it, read it again, be patient, try not to get distracted, learn from your mistakes, give yourself time to think, look back at the work you did before, be honest and not afraid to ask, use tables squares and dictionaries.

We asked ‘What makes you feel safe in school?’

Our children said “our teachers because they are always around us, security, buddies, the ERICERS, School Council, friends, good role models, clear rules that protect us, the Office, First Aid, the fire alarm, the fence and gates, being near people you know, Year 6 because they have experience, all the adults, God, being in a small village.’

