

# Caring and Sharing,

# Believing and Achieving, Together



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## Summer Term 2017 – Newsletter 11 Week ending: Friday 14th July 2017

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Dear Parents,



I cannot believe this is my penultimate newsletter. Where has a year gone? So much has happened in that time, performances, 2 inspections, visits and visitors, hide and seek, tag, house team events, dancing, singing, topic sharing afternoons, never-ending paperwork, fun and laughter and so much more. Eckington is such an amazing place to be and will remain in my heart forever. But now is not the time to be sad but to read about exciting news and events.

The most exciting news we have is the announcement of a new headteacher for one day a week from September. As you know Miss Breakwell will return for 4 days, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday which leaves Thursday needing a headteacher. The governors interviewed in June and now all appropriate paperwork is in place we can tell you who will be the new head. Drum roll please. Here at Eckington CE First School we are pleased to announce that Mrs Dodd will be Head on Thursdays. We are all over the moon that Mrs Dodd has received this promotion. She will make an excellent headteacher and is very much looking forward to a new challenge and role. She will continue on the other days as Assistant Head and Class Teacher for Class 3. So that Mrs Dodd has opportunities to work closely with Miss Breakwell we are also pleased that Mrs Marks has agreed to increase her working days and will teach Class 3 on Thursdays and Fridays as well as covering PPA cover across the school on Wednesdays. Congratulations Mrs Dodd from us all – get practising wake up shake up!



And now to a snippet from Miss Breakwell



We were treated to an excellent musical performance by our guitar players on Tuesday morning in worship and we had heard our marvellous flute players in the previous week. It was wonderful to see the children clearly enjoying sharing their newly developed skills with the rest of the school – a great example of our 'self-confidence' school value! Please speak to the office staff if your child is interested in taking up a musical instrument, we currently have lessons in guitar, flute and violin.

There are 300 million children in the world for whom walking with shoes is a rarity. Our governor, Dan Butler, has suggested that any parents who wish to donate their child's old school shoes could leave them at school on the last day (joined with a rubber band) to be donated to the charity Sal's Shoes. The charity sends shoes to nearly 30 countries and it would be a lovely end to our school year to help children who aren't as fortunate as us.  
<http://www.salsshoes.com/>

Some of you may be aware that over the summer building work is taking place at the village hall. We have been informed that although the majority of work will be done during school holidays, it will not be completed prior to the start of term in September. This will result in some increased traffic on School Lane, please take extra care on your journeys to school.

Miss Breakwell

Now we must go back in time to last Friday. Throughout the day Year 5 and Mrs Dodd were very busy. As part of raising money for their leaver's party, Y5 decided to run a restaurant evening for their family. All day there was chopping, scraping, mixing and beating. The school was filled with the aroma of cooking. At 7pm the children welcomed their friends and family into a hall that had been transformed with flowers, tablecloths, music and candles. Drinks were served and the first course rolled out – melon with parma ham and bruschetta. Throughout the evening entertainment was laid on; magic tricks, cheesy jokes and dancing. Everyone had a wonderful time and the night is still being talked about. Thank you Mrs Dodd for organising such a different event and well done children for all of your hard work. One of the guests had the following to say:



'The food was AMAZING! The service was excellent, prompt and polite. Everyone without exception was professional. The entertainment was so entertaining. Thank you for your hard work and attention to detail. '

On Thursday we were treated to more music when our flautists played for their peers and parents. Everyone was brilliant. Such talent and confidence. It isn't easy getting up in front of an audience and the children did their teacher Suzie proud. Many of our flautists are now going to be in either Year 4 or 5 so it would be lovely to see the younger children in the school choosing to learn this beautiful instrument. Please consider arranging music lessons for your child. We offer flute, guitar or violin. It really is a great talent to nurture and one that usually remains with you for life.



From September thanks to FOES we are pleased to say that every child in KS2 will have the opportunity to learn the ukelele for a term and a half. Class 3 will have weekly lessons through Autumn and Spring One and then Class 4 will be taught the ukelele through Spring 2 and Summer term. The FOES have been keen to enhance music provision and sports provision in the school and will be paying for a teacher to come in. The teacher will be Lindsay Southall from Severn Arts. Funds for this great opportunity will also come from Eckstock which is all about music.



Thank you if your child is coming to sing at Eckstock on Saturday. We will be singing 4 songs and are looking forward to performing on the festival stage as usual. Hopefully many of you will come along and support this annual event at The Rec. From 2 – 3 in the stocks will be myself or Mr McDonagh in order to raise money. Please queue up at 2.30 when Mr M will be delighted to have things thrown at him.



We hope you enjoyed reading your child's report last week. If you have not returned your slip to confirm that you have received the report please do so a.s.a.p. I leave next week and don't want to spend my summer holidays hunting you down. Unless you are visiting a particularly nice hot place preferably with a pool.

Next week is a busy week. Can we please ask that you check at home for library books, reading books, badges and anything else that belongs to school and return? Year 5 have a particularly busy time – Mon – Main Games, Tues – Party, Wed - All of us to Weston, Thurs – Leaver's service and Friday – Bye Bye and off to pastures new. We are currently sending home artwork, books, bits and pieces of uniform. The children will not need any bags in school apart from lunchboxes after Tuesday, including PE kit. So lots of opportunities to find missing bits and pieces. We will be having a deep clean in the holidays so everything needs to be cleared. We are all very much looking forward to our day at Weston and building sandcastles. Please remember we need to leave at 8.30am so everyone needs to be here by 8.15am at the latest.



Finally our manifesto for the week:

- Smell the flowers
- Play a game that you've never played before
- Laugh out loud and lots
- Take in a music festival in your community (E.g. ECKSTOCK)
- Bounce around the room
- And of course Always Look on the Bright Side of Life

Only one week to go to summer holidays. Have a great weekend.

Mrs Humphriss

We expect all of the children to follow our 6 key values all of the time and we are focussing on Self-Confidence. Our spiritual value is Truth.

*God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth. John 4:24*

Attendance 96.4% overall this week. School target is 96%.

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
97.3%	96.2%	92.7%	99.1%

**Letters home this week** – Year 5 - Letter re buses to middle school, whole school music lesson letter, Year 3 and 4 letter re residential trip 2018.

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**House points – this week’s winners are Hill with 37. The overall leader is Church with 4848.**

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**Stars of the Week! Key Stage One**



**Reception - Charlie for his knowledgeable work on animals.**

**Reception – William for his fantastic progress in writing.**

**Year 1 – Jacob for his progression in writing & super concentration in mathletes**

**Year 1 – Finlay for growing maturity.**

**Year 2 - Sophia - a fantastic strong friend and a wonderful personality**

**Year 2 – Harry for being brave in everything he does & showing fierce resilience.**

**Headteacher – Beatrice Yr 2 for maturity, perseverance and great progress throughout the year.**



**We would like to thank Mrs Sansom and Mrs Hill who come in every week to listen to our children read. We greatly appreciate this.**

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## Reminders

**School Dinners** Class Catering's contact number for cancellations/queries 01684 772623 from 8.00 am to speak to Laura. Please contact them direct.



**Sickness** If your child has a sickness bug please keep them away from school for 48 hours after the last sickness/diarrhoea episode.



**Absence** If your child is ill please telephone school at your earliest opportunity and send in a quick note when they return explaining their absence. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Upcoming Events

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

Eckstock children performing 1pm

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

Year 5 Main Games

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

Year 5 Leavers Party Eckington Rec

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

Whole school trip to Weston Super Mare. Leaving 8.30am returning 5pm

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

Leavers Church Service

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017**

End of year assembly 9am

Further information re Guitar lessons!



Prices will stay the same at £7.50 and if parents would like to contact me directly I can give them more info about the syllabus and buying starter guitars etc. My contact details are:-

Phone: 07748 230045 Email: [robcléments44@hotmail.com](mailto:robcléments44@hotmail.com) kind regards Rob Clements

**11** **School Uniform Order Deadline!** **12**

**Friday 11th August 2017**

Place your order by Friday 11th August 2017 for back to school delivery.

**DON'T LEAVE IT TOO LATE!**

**ACT NOW BEAT THE RUSH!**

Visit your local store or order online at:

**pmgschoolwear.co.uk**

**18** **19**

**Avoid disappointment!** Order your son/daughter's uniform online or visit the store **NOW!** Do NOT leave it until the last moment. Remember **after 11th August 2017** we cannot guarantee to have stock in time for when your child goes back to school. We don't want to let you down so help us to help you!

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## Summer Holiday Activities for Curious Kids!

Drop in between 10.30 & 12.30 every Wed of summer



Fun in the Secret Garden  
Wed 2 & 16 August

-  
Beaks & Feet  
Fur & Feathers  
Wed 9 August

-  
Make a Tudor House  
Wed 23 August

-  
Historic Games & Crafts  
Wed 30  
August

Donations appreciated

Held at the John Moore Museum,  
Church Street, GL20 5SN  
[johnmooremuseum.org](http://johnmooremuseum.org) 01684 297 174

