

Emmbrook Junior School Newsletter

Friday 13th November 2020

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Letters this week:

- Online Courses for Parents/Carers
- Flu Immunisation E-Consent Reminder
- Scholastic Book Club
- Design A Reflector Competition
- Manor Trip Sept 2021 (Year 5 only)
- Year Group Knowledge Organisers
- Parent Forum Minutes
- November Wellbeing Newsletter
- Remote Learning Survey
- Christmas Dinner Day
- Conqueror Challenge Update

Thank you from Mr Usher



As I mentioned in last week's newsletter the recent assessments that took place in school were to help the school ascertain how much learning had been lost during the first lockdown and how much recovery work had to be done. You may have seen in the media that many schools have seen a dramatic decline in children's learning in most areas. I'm very pleased to say that while the tests that took place were just a snap shot of reading and mathematics we have not seen as large a drop off as we might have expected. There are many possible reasons for this but a large part of it must have been how engaged our parents and carers were with their children's learning during the summer term and over the summer holidays.

There is obviously still a great deal of work to be done but I wanted to send a heart felt thank you to our parents for the support you have given your children and to let you know that it has had an impact. I'm well aware of the challenges of working from home while supporting children with learning and you should all be congratulated for your efforts. This combined with the **high levels of attendance** since the start of the year means we really have the opportunity to ensure that the children can make brilliant progress. You truly have made a difference and now we must all build upon the work that has been done.

Well done and thank you.

Also, a big thank you to all those of you taking part in The Conqueror Challenge and those of you that have chosen to donate. It will make a big difference to the school.

Parents' Forum – Rewards and Sanctions

The Parents' Forum asked us to revisit the rewards and sanctions used by the school that can be found in the Parent Pack sent to new parents and available on the school website.

Rewarding positive behaviour at EJS:

We pride ourselves on developing well-rounded children at Emmbrook Junior School and we do this through promoting our Core Values and by following our Emmbrook Junior School Golden Rules. Our ten values are currently being reviewed and condensed by the children and staff and will shortly be updated to reflect the changing needs of the school and its community. Children are rewarded in a variety of ways for displaying these core values as well as for following our school rules and for demonstrating excellent learning or effort.

Positive behaviour will be rewarded with:

- Praise

This might be verbal, written, celebrated with the class or given in private. Children with noteworthy achievements are invited to share them with Mr Usher or Miss Scales.

- **House Points**

Friendly competition between houses is encouraged in the form of House Points. These are awarded for good work and behaviour and can be awarded both to individuals and larger groups of children. The House with the most house-points at the end of each fortnight wins the House cup. The children also compete in their houses on Sports day and through other sporting events.

- **'Caught Doing the Right Thing' vouchers**

We run a system called 'Caught Doing the Right Thing' whereby our children are rewarded if they are caught by a member of staff going out of their way to be friendly, kind or helpful to their friends, peers, and members of staff or visitors. This might include: doing something extra without being asked; helping children when they are hurt; helping others in class... amongst other things. The children are rewarded with a voucher that goes into a draw for a prize at the end of every term. (In the past, a popular reward has been having a hot chocolate with the Senior Leadership Team! We will choose a suitable Covid-19 safe treat for the end of this term.)

- **Phone calls / notes home to parents**

- **Emmbrook Excellence Awards**

Teaching staff select a child each week for this award in our weekly Celebration assembly. Through the course of the year, every child will have their moment to shine and be given this award for a special, personalised reason.

- **Special responsibilities / privileges**

Consequences for misbehaviour:

Sometimes, children choose not to follow our school rules and to behave in inappropriate ways. Our behaviour management system is built upon a staged approach using the language of reflection. We believe that it is important to support a child in understanding why their behaviour was inappropriate, help them to reflect on what they should have done instead, agree what they will do next time, make amends and apologies where necessary and then 'wipe the slate clean' again. Consequences are tiered depending on the severity of the misbehaviour. We use a system of yellow and red cards which provide a subtle yet visual reminder to a child that they are behaving inappropriately.

More details can be found in our Behaviour Policy on our website but a summary is included below:

Misbehaviour Level 1: Reminder Stage

- Distraction in class which has an impact on their own and others learning
- Non-completion of classwork due to poor attitude
- A breach of the Golden Rules

Misbehaviour Level 2: Visual Warning Stage - Yellow Card

Children who have received a minimum of two reminders but have chosen to continue to break the Golden Rules.

Misbehaviour Level 3: Red Card leading to Reflection Time with a Teacher or Member of Support Staff

- Repeated breaches of the school's Golden Rules
- Persistent Level 2 behaviour which continues even after a visual warning
- More serious misbehaviour such as inappropriate use of ICT equipment; fighting; inappropriate language

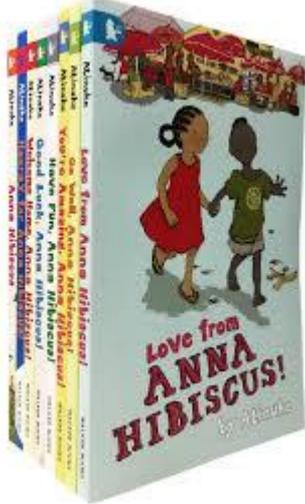
Misbehaviour Level 4: Reflection Time with a Senior Leader and Parents Contacted

A child who regularly chooses to continue to display Level 3 behaviours (regular is defined as three red cards in a half term) even after reflection time with the class teacher or member of support staff.

Misbehaviour Level 5: Reflection Time with the Deputy or Head Teacher and Parents Contacted (This might also lead to involvement of outside agencies and/or exclusion.)

- Continued misbehaviour that persists even after the involvement of parents and a Senior Leader
- Any form of bullying
- Vandalism
- Theft
- Fighting that causes serious injury
- Racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory behaviour
- Possession of any prohibited items
- Any form of harassment or assault

Anti-racism – Diversity in Literature



Anna Hibiscus Series: Anna Hibiscus/Splash/Love From/You're Amazing/Go Well/Have Fun/Double Trouble/Welcome Home/Good Luck – Atinuke

A collection of four linked stories of family life set in modern west Africa. Anna Hibiscus lives in amazing Africa with her mother, her father, her baby twin brothers, and lots and lots of her family. Join her as she splashes in the sea, prepares for a party, sells oranges, and hopes to see sweet, sweet snow!

Author Info: Atinuke is a Nigerian-born author who started her career as an oral storyteller of tales from the African continent. She draws on her recent Yoruba ancestry and her life in West Wales to write stories of contemporary life in Nigeria and in Wales.

The No 1 Car Spotter Series: The No.1 Car Spotter/The Firebird/The Car Thieves/The Broken Road/Goes to School/Fights the Factory – Atinuke

Oluwalase Babatunde Benson is No. 1. He's the No. 1 car spotter in his village. The No. 1 car spotter in the world! The start of an exciting new series about the irresistible No. 1, whose hobby is car spotting but who is good at solving all sorts of problems for his village. No. 1 is bright and plucky and resourceful - a fantastic new character.

Times Tables Rock Stars

This week's Top Earners

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Jovan Sanghera	Isabella Jones	Jude Ashley	Isabelle Mason

Overall Most Correct Answers

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Oscar Earl	Isabella Jones	Aidan Thomas	Isabelle Mason

Well done to Isabella and Isabelle who are not only the overall leaders but also this week's top earners. If they continue like this will anyone be able to catch them! Well done girls – you're both Rock Stars! Welcome to Jovan who is this week's top earner in Year 3 and Jude who is Year 5's top earner.

Who will be next week's top earners and can anyone know Oscar, Isabella, Aidan & Isabelle off the top spot?

Lost Property

The volume of lost property is increasing massively including a wide selection of snack boxes. Due to Covid-19 we can't allow parents to come and route through the boxes at the moment so please encourage your children to look through the items at **break time or lunchtime** to see if they can find any missing items. This is obviously helped by ensuring name labels are on all items. The end of the day pick up is not really the best time for children to start looking through items as this means that parents are left waiting on the playground at a time when we are trying to reduce numbers on school premises as much as possible.

Online Safety

Targeting of online content including on social media and search engines - Much of the information seen online is a result of some form of targeting. How adverts seen at the top of online searches and social media feeds have often come from companies paying to be on there and different people will see different adverts depending on location, previous searches or even online purchase. It's worth thinking about how the targeting is done, for example software which monitors online behaviour (sites they have visited in the past, people who they are friends with etc) to target adverts thought to be relevant to the individual user. This is the way many social media platforms make money through advertising. It's also worth discussing the concept of [clickbait](#) and how companies can use it to draw people onto their sites and services.



Wink is an app for making online friends with people you don't know. You can find, add and chat to people on the app, as well as sending requests to become Snapchat friend. If you sign up as an under 18 it restricts who you can connect with to 13-18 years olds. Its **Official age rating is 13 years +**

Experts consider this to be a medium to high risk application and should be used with extreme caution.

You can find out about a wide range of apps and online platforms at: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/>

What's been going on this week?

Remembrance – Lest we forget...



On Wednesday children from different uniformed groups were allowed to wear their uniforms as part of our 'Remembrance Day' reflections.



This week, **Year 4** learnt all about how our ears work and how we hear sounds with Mrs Holland from our HRB.

Isobel: My favourite part was when Mrs Holland got us up to show how hearing works with props.

Imogen: I liked the lesson because I didn't know all the parts of the ear but know I do.

Emma C: I didn't know there was more than one level of how deaf a person can be.

Alex D: I learnt there was a tube from your ear to your throat.

Jonathan: I liked the quiz because it tested us on what we learnt from the lesson.

Alexander: I liked it because we learnt about the different parts of the ear.

Ellie: Before this lesson, I didn't know that being deaf can sometimes makes speech blurry not that you can't hear anything.

Bella: I didn't know that the ear had the smallest bones in the body.

Tom: I learnt that there is something inside your ear in the shape of a shell with hairs in it.

Isabella: I didn't know there were so many parts of the ear including the ear drum.

Evie: When Mrs Holland talks about the ear, I didn't know there was a kind of drum in your ear.

Harry: I liked it because I learnt about the cochlea.

Sebbie: I liked matching the parts of the ear to what they do.

Marko: I didn't know there were Latin names for parts of the ear.

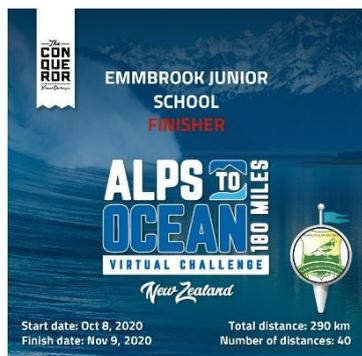
Jessica L: I didn't know there were bones in the ear and that the pinna was made of cartilage.

Amelia: I never knew the ear had so many complicated parts.

Year 5 & Year 6 took part in a road safety workshop and as part of our on-going road safety campaign Year 3 and Year 4 will have an in-class road safety presentation in the near future.

The Conqueror Challenge

2 more challenges completed!! That's 5 down with 8 more to go. It has been an amazing effort from all at Emmbrook Junior School travelling over 2500km.



https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/emmbrook-junior-school?utm_term=aB8eY23aN

For those who have not managed to take part yet and would like to, please click on the link for the online form and enter your activity details. Remember, only put in the details of the activity you have done as extra. Not what you would normally do on a week to week basis. For example, family walk or bike ride, taking the dog

for a walk when maybe you wouldn't, walking/skating/running or cycling somewhere when you would normally drive.



<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q8pkRCuPhk2xPScES2el7HEgsR7Z5QVFtrlqb7B4okBUQVFPWTJOWVpIRzQ0MkdUQ0tRNDVONIUzWi4u>

Advent Collection

With everything that has been going on this term we didn't manage to organise a collection for Harvest Festival. Therefore, this year we have decided to organise a 'Reverse Advent' collection for our local Foodbank in Wokingham. This means there is no limit to the amount you can donate!

They have created a new community project with two other local charities, Share Wokingham and First Days. The role of the Foodbank will be to collect Christmas food donations which will be made up into Christmas boxes/hampers for distribution to local households in poverty.

They have specifically requested the following items to be donated: Christmas pudding, small Christmas cake, selection boxes, small boxes of chocolates, savouries/crisps, biscuits for cheese, boxes of biscuits, chutney, hot chocolate, paper napkins, mince pies, tinned fruit and tinned cream.

We will be accepting donations all next week 16th-20th November. Children can take their items directly to their classrooms where it will all be collected on Friday afternoon, ready to take to the Foodbank.

Thank you for your continued support.

What do I do if my child is unwell?

Wokingham Guidance -

<https://wsh.wokingham.gov.uk/resources/assets/inline/full/0/535887.pdf>

Latest DFE guidance for parents –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Dates for your diary:

16th-20th November – Advent Foodbank Donations

Wednesday 18th November - Manor Residential Trip Presentation for Y5 parents

Thursday 10th December – PTA Christmas Raffle Draw

Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

Friday 17th December – Last Day of Term

Tuesday 5th January – 1st Day of Spring Term

