



The Weekly Hill

Issue 5

9th February 2024

Headteacher's Column

It has been a very exciting first few weeks of 2024 here at Etching Hill! The children have all made a great start in their learning this term and we have had some exciting events, including a storyteller visit.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your very kind words following the publication of our OFSTED report. Your children all shone so brightly during the visit and we are very proud of how they represented our school.

The next half term is a short one but full of exciting events, including World Book Day, Mothers Day lunches and Red Nose Day. Please see overleaf for dates and more information.

Mrs M Smith & Mrs A Morganti

Headteacher & Head of School

Team Asher Smith won the most amount of team points this half term! As a reward, children in this team are allowed to wear non-uniform on Friday 23rd February.



Reading Role Models

We have introduced a new reward at school to celebrate children who are being excellent role models for reading! Children will receive a 'Reading Role Model' sticker if they have been reading regularly at home.

Reading Role Model ★

Child:

Is a 'Reading Role Model'



Alongside this, we will be running a reading raffle every week.

Children who read three times a week at home and have their diary signed will have their name entered into a raffle.

Every half term, a name from every class will be randomly selected and that child will get to choose a book which will be purchased for them by school.



Clubs

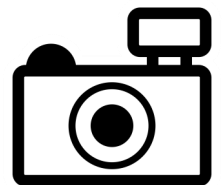
Teacher run after school clubs will begin week beginning 19th February. However there will be no afterschool clubs during the week beginning 26th February due to parents evening. Wraparound club will continue as normal.

Please note we have asked children to not bring 'magnetic fidget pens' in to school. These pose a significant health and safety risk.



We thank you for your support with this.

Year 6 Leavers photographs



Polite reminder that Year 6 have their leavers photograph on Monday 18th March.

Please ensure children come in full school uniform.

Mothering Sunday

As a Church of England School, we will be marking Mothering Sunday.

You should have received a google form about this.

Here is a reminder of the dates.

Year 1 14th March 1.00pm

Year 2 15th March 1.00pm

Year 3 6th March 1.00pm

Year 4 5th March 1.00pm

Year 5 4th March 1.00pm

Year 6 8th March 1.00pm





Red Nose Day at Etching Hill

15th March 2024



When you donate to Comic Relief or Sport Relief, you're supporting vulnerable people and communities in the UK and internationally. Their vision is to create a just world free from poverty and this happens by funding amazing organisations doing amazing things.

At Etching Hill, we want to make a difference to our local community and so this year and for this awareness event we are asking for donated food items that can be given to our local food banks.

On Friday 15th March we invite all our children to wear non uniform with an element of red to acknowledge Red Nose Day. Class teachers will lead conversations and activities to support the day. We are not asking for monetary donations, just food donations please.

Ideas of items to donate

It's best to check on the local food bank's website or social media to see which items they need most.

In general, the following items are often needed (non-food essentials are also accepted):

Thank you for your continued support to us and our local community.

UHT milk	Tinned meat	Tinned fish	Tinned veg	Tinned soup	Jams and spread
Sponge/ric e pudding	Coffee	Long-life juice	Pasta sauce	Tinned meals	Tinned fruit

Together we can make a difference!

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

7 MARCH 2024

We are very excited to be celebrating this very special day in school!

As you know, reading is a priority at our school and World Book Day is all about celebrating a love of books!

The redemption period for World Book Day 2024 £1/€1.50 tokens is from **Thursday 15 February until Sunday 31 March 2024**. You can redeem your World Book Day £1/€1.50 book token at the following retailers:

- Your local independent bookseller
- Asda
- Blackwell's (selected stores only)
- Sainsburys
- Tesco
- The Works
- Waterstones
- WHSmith



As a school, we have purchased a selection of these books and children will be allowed to choose one to bring home. This is NOT in exchange for a token and is a gift from school.

Free audio books:

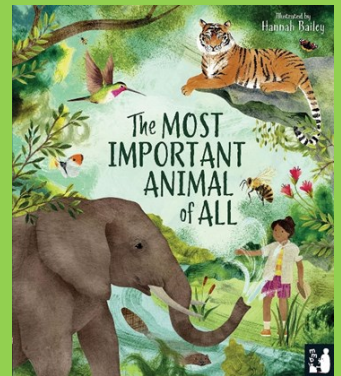
<https://www.worldbookday.com/world-of-stories/>



Dress up!

Our theme this year is animals. Children are invited to dress up as an animal or their favourite book character.

This is completely **OPTIONAL** and children are more than welcome to come to school in their uniform if they prefer.



Book swap!

Children are invited to donate a book from home they no longer want. Children will then be invited to choose a donated book to bring home and keep. This donation is optional and children are welcome to donate more than one book if they wish.



Please send books in anytime during the **week beginning 4th March.**

Etching Hill Family Learning Project No Tech Day



As part of Safer Internet Day, we have been looking at how technology has changed over time, and how it may develop further in the future.

As part of our online safety curriculum, we also think about the amount of time we spend online and how this can affect both our physical and mental health.

To help support and encourage healthy use of technology, we would like to challenge families to take part in a no tech day. That's a day without devices or screens. You can choose any day that suits you between now and the end of February half term, and we can't wait to see what you choose to do!

Here are some suggestions from our staff:

A picnic on Cannock Chase	Learn some new card games	Take a trip to the library	Go on a nature walk – can you make some artwork with natural materials?	Do an A-Z treasure hunt. What can you find that starts with each letter of the alphabet?
Play some board games	Get baking!	Take a trip to one of our local museums	Take a trip to the National Memorial Arboretum and complete the Stick Man trail	Find the Gruffalo and Zog on Cannock Chase
Do a jigsaw together	Spend some time in the garden getting it ready for Spring	Have a Lego building competition	Prepare a meal together	Spend the evening star gazing and drinking hot chocolate

Here are some ideas for how you can let us know what you've been to:

- *Make a poster
- *Write a diary entry about your day
- *If you want to take photos, send us some in or use the Etching Hill 'Let Your Light Shine Page'.



Are you cooking for a family?

Do you want to learn more about food and nutrition and how to shop on a budget?

If so, why not sign up to Cannock Chase Can - Let's Cook Together?

It's a FREE, 6-week programme.

Receive a FREE slow cooker once you have completed the course!



The course will run at:

- Rugeley Community Church - every Monday from 18 March until Monday 29 April (there will be no session on 1 April due to Easter) 12noon - 2.30pm
- Cannock Children's Centre - every Thursday from 21 March until 25 April, 9am until 12noon

To find out more and to book a space, contact Cannock Children's Centre on 01543 469894

We would love to see any photos of this if you do attend. Please share on our 'Let your light shine' Facebook page!

**Let Your
Light Shine**



Etching Hill Primary Academy - Let Your Light Shine

Star pupil



These children have demonstrated exceptional learning behaviour during the whole half term.

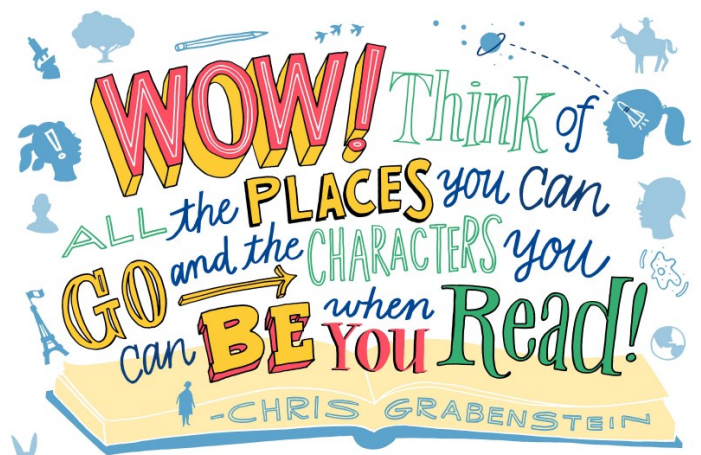
A huge congratulations to these wonderful role models!

Reception	Evelyn Tilt Edward Gambrill
Year 1	Matilda Ashworth Ellie Evans
Year 2	Jessica Brown George Donkah
Year 3	Annie Rowlands Tristan Howe
Year 4	Nancy Gilbert Rupert Upton
Year 5	Polly Bytheway Evie Bloor
Year 6	Reece Hewitt Amber Laud

Keep Shining Brightly!

Recommended reads

	Half	All
1	Hugh Barclay- Scragg, Martha Skyes.	Maeve O'Donnell, Charlie Johnson.
2	Leo Gough, Liberty Thompson, Charlie Vasey, Betty Butler, Isla Howen, Ted Bytheway, Suzie Woods, Jessica Brown, Jacob Jones, William Hale, Jude Winton-King, Charlotte Gambrill, Luna Welsh, Alfie Howard,	George Gallimore, Harry Spires.
3	Fredrick Swann, Matilda Smyth, Harper Cotton-Diederich, Edward Irlam, Ava Leach, Rebecca Williams, Freya Young, Payton Hodgkinson	Isabella Butler, Sophia Butler
4	Lily Lammin, Freddie Kirk, Charlotte Dawson, Cody Roach, Aquilus Boyes- Rankine	Anabella Sopron, Alarna Tapper, Grace Young, Blake Harvey
5	Daisie Mai Bland, Ruben Conway, Lily Goodall, James Harris, Ashley Millerchip, Libby Cowan, Lillie-May Brown, Mia Holroyd, Connor Roach, Jasmine Siriani, Sophie Payne, Levi Plow, Rosie Feeley, Finley Wilby, Theo Ballard, Millie Corcoran.	Hallie-May Conroy, Sienna Aspley, Esme Craddock, Isla Hejdner, Chloe Bytheway.
6	Georgia Bott, Eva Vukmirorvic, Ella Preston, Lily Grace Butler, Lacey McCay.	Tommy Campbell-Innes



Shining in Sport!



Reception	Myla Lyons for trying extremely hard in PE. Noah Gilbert for fantastic effort in PE
Year one	Isabelle Horsley for shining in her dance and acro show Emily Dawson for her fantastic attitude in PE and competing the park run
Year two	Aurora Tapper for being a role model in all of our PE lessons and for always supporting others in PE. Liberty Thompson for her fantastic dancing outside of school and for her enthusiasm during gymnastics lessons.
Year three	Frankie-John Davies for his fantastic effort in hockey this half-term. Frederick Swann for his dedication to improving his hockey skills during our lessons.
Year four	Scarlett Penellum for demonstrating her ability in Dance and being a role model to others Cody Roach for committing himself to our Dance Topic and coming up with amazing ideas.
Year five	Rose Smyth for her fabulous contribution and achievement in our gymnastic lessons Millie Corcoran for her dedication to girls football.
Year six	Victoria Sopron for being experimental and creative in our gymnastics lessons, when performing rolls and balances Sam Southall for being a role model and collaborating exceptionally during handball.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12th-16th February	Spring half term holiday
Monday 19th February	Return to school
Thursday 22nd February Church of the Holy Spirit, Etching Hill	9.15am Year 3 Prayer morning (parents welcome) 10am Year 4 Prayer morning (parents welcome)
Tuesday 27th February	Matt Goodfellow (poet and author) visit
Tuesday 27th February	Parents evening 5pm-8pm
Thursday 29th February	Parents evening 3.45pm-6pm
Thursday 29th February	3 Japan Assembly (parents welcome)
Week beginning Monday 4th March	Mother's Day lunches (Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6)
Tuesday 5th March	Gotta Dance Show at Prince of Wales theatre
Wednesday 6th March Church of the Holy Spirit, Etching Hill	9.15am Year 1 Prayer morning—parents welcome 10am Year 2 Prayer morning—parents welcome
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day (in school celebrations)
11th March	Y6 Paris Week
Week beginning 11th March	Mother's day lunches (Y1/Y2)
W.b. 11th March	STEM fayre - information to follow
Friday 15th March	Red Nose Day
Monday 18th March	Y6 leavers photographs
W.b. 18th March	Easter celebrations in school
20th March	Y5 trip to Rugeley Library
25th March to 5th April	Easter Holidays
Thursday 18th April	2 Australia Class Assembly
Thursday 25th April	2 New Zealand Class Assembly
Monday 6th May	May Day- School closed
Thursday 9th May	5 Brazil Assembly
W.B. 13th May	Y6 SATs week
27th May - 31st May	Half term
Monday 3rd June	INSET day- School closed to children