

# Eagles and Ospreys News

Autumn Term 1 2018

## Etwall Primary School

Welcome back! We hope you have had a lovely summer break and are rested and ready for the new year in school.

### Remember:

- \* PE kits need to be in school every day.
- \* Reading journals will be checked every Friday (Eagles)/Monday (Ospreys).
- \* Spelling test is every Friday. Please support your child in learning their spellings.
- \* Children will have mental maths and writing targets glued into their reading journals. Times tables are also expected to be practised every week.

### Other subjects

Our topic work this term is about WW1: The Great War. As it is 100 years since the end of WW1, the children will be finding out about the roles and responsibilities of the people involved and how it has impacted on the society we live in today. Our science topic is 'What would a journey through your body look like?'. This involves looking at the main parts and function of the human circulatory system. In

## Maths and English

### English

In English this term we will be exploring historical



narrative through the novel War Horse, and learning how to write effective recounts. In our guided reading lessons, we will be working on our inference and deduction skills. Through our English work we will develop our

knowledge of spellings, punctuation and grammar (spag), and we will work on our use of a cursive script in handwriting practice.

### Maths

In maths this term we will be solving a range of number and practical problems involving numbers up to ten million, using formal calculation methods for the four operations. Although we will be prac-

tising our multiplication facts in school, the quicker the children can recall these facts, the easier they will find the whole maths curriculum. Please encourage your child to practise these at home. Thank you.



RE, our topic is 'Can religions build a fair world?'. In citizenship, our theme is 'Being healthy'. In PE, we will be developing our coordination and agility and in German, we will learn greetings, classroom commands and numbers. In computing we

will be developing our basic skills and in art we will be creating pictures using natural materials. In music, we will continue to develop our understanding of rhythm and musical notations.



## Fluency and Reasoning

Fluency and Reasoning is a new version of the 'Rapid Number Recall' program that we have used for the last few years. It is based on the belief that if children are proficient in their fluency and reasoning skills, they will find all other areas of the maths curriculum much easier. For example, when being asked to find out the fraction of an amount, if they have a good understanding of their multiplication facts, they will find this much easier.

Each week will begin with a CLIC sheet which children will complete. The questions that they get wrong will then determine the skills that they focus on in daily practice, during afternoon register. When children get all questions correct on a CLIC sheet, they can move onto the next step.

You will find a record sheet for the step that your child is working on in their reading journal. Please encourage your child to practise the step they are working on at home as part of their homework, because the more they do, the quicker they will achieve!

Thank you for your continued support.



## BOOK SWAP FRIDAY!

Book Swap Friday is to continue this year, and will be run by the newly appointed Literacy Committee. This will happen on the first Friday of every month, beginning in October. On Book Swap Friday, children are welcome to bring into school a book/ books (NOT school library books) that they have finished reading and swap it/them for a new book that another child has brought in. Please make sure that books that your children bring to Book Swap Friday are in a reasonable condition so that another child can enjoy reading them!

Thank you for your support.

## Reading journals

Children in Year 5 and 6 are given reading journals instead of reading diaries. We ask that they take the time each week to complete a minimum of 5 entries in their journal, including entries using the prompt sheets glued into their journal, as part of their homework. Please see the information sheet glued into your child's journal for further information. We cannot stress enough the importance of reading at home regularly, even once children are fluent readers, so that they continue to develop vital skills such as inference and deduction. These skills enable them to reach the expected standard in reading at the end of KS2, but more importantly to navigate their way around a range of texts across the curriculum, throughout their school life.

Thank you for your support.

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## Year 5/6 staff

The teachers in Years 5/6 this year are Mrs Dhillon and Mrs Giles (Ospreys) and Miss Warburton (Eagles). In Ospreys, Mrs Dhillon will work Monday—Thursday and Mrs Giles will work on Friday. Our teaching assistants are Mrs Hall and Mrs Cheetham, who is a HLTA (higher level teaching



assistant). Both are very experienced in Y5/6.

Again this year, Mrs Cheetham will be taking out groups of Year 5/6 children to teach maths and English lessons in the library. These lessons will be planned by the class teachers. She will be working with children of a range of abilities throughout the year. Children will be taught by her for a week at a time, to maximize the impact on their learning. We are very lucky to be supported by such excellent and dedicated TAs in Year 5/6!

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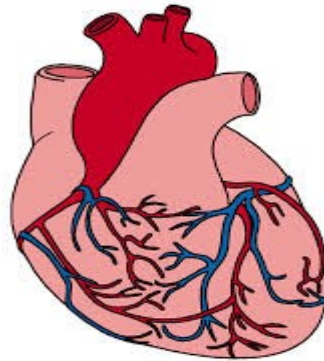
## Science enrichment

This term as part of our science curriculum we are learning about the human circulatory system. We are very lucky to have Dr Hendriksen, friend of the school and father to ex-pupils of Etwall Primary, to come in and teach a lesson all about the function of the heart.

As part of this lesson, we will be dissecting pigs' hearts. Dr Hendriksen has delivered this lesson to Y5/6 many times in the past, and it is always thoroughly enjoyable, as well as being educational for the children.

We are looking forward to this en-

richment visit and we are very lucky to have the support of Dr Hendriksen when teaching this fascinating topic!



## PG films

Throughout the year the children may be watching clips from PG films to support their learning. If you have any questions about this, please come and see your child's class teacher.



## Times tables

We cannot emphasize enough the importance of children being able to recall the times table facts (up to  $12 \times 12$ ) and the related division facts.

This is not only important for end of key stage assessments, but because a secure knowledge of these facts will help the children across all areas of the maths curriculum. Those children who are not able to recall the times table facts and the related division facts up to  $12 \times 12$  will struggle in other areas of maths, and are unlikely to meet age related expectations in maths at the end of KS2.

In line with our homework

policy, please encourage your child to learn the times tables and the related division facts. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like some support with this. Thank you.



## World War 1 Commemoration

This year marks the centenary since the end of World War 1. We will be working very closely with St. Helen's Church and the Parish Council to mark this very important occasion. As part of our work, all children will be contributing to an exhibition at the church. All children and parents will be invited to view the exhibition (dates to follow). We look forward to being a part of this historic anniversary, which plays an important part in how our world is shaped today.



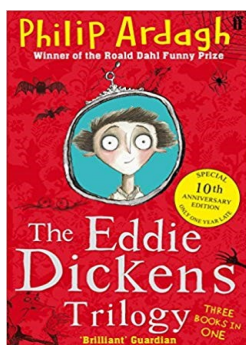
## Recommended Reads

### The Eddie Dickens Trilogy

By: Philip Ardagh

#### AWFUL END

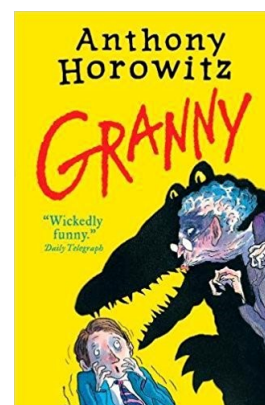
When both of Eddie Dickens's parents catch a disease that makes them turn yellow, go a bit crinkly round the edges and smell of hot water bottles, it's agreed he should go and stay with relatives at their house Awful End. Unfortunately for Eddie, those relatives are Mad Uncle Jack and Even-Madder Aunt Maud, and it doesn't look as if the three of them are ever going to reach their destination ...



### Granny

By: Anthony Horowitz

Anthony Horowitz, creator of the bestselling Alex Rider series has written a wickedly funny story, with hilarious illustrations by Tony Ross. Twelve-year-old Joe has an unbelievably evil Granny. Not only is Granny physically repulsive and horribly mean, but she also has the look in her eye of a predatory crocodile. Soon Joe starts to suspect that she has unpleasant designs on him. But what are they and how can he foil them?



## Key dates for your diary

- 3rd September—INSET day (school closed to children)
- 4th September—INSET day (school closed to children)
- 5th September—Children back to school!
- 17th September—Dr Hendriksen's science enrichment visit
- 24th September—Y6 mini leader training (during the school day)
- 27th September—Macmillan Coffee Morning
- 8th October—PTFA film night
- 15th October—INSET day (school closed to children)
- 16th & 18th October—Parents consultation evenings
- 22nd—26th October—Y5/6 residential
- 26th October—Last day of term/PTFA recycling day

