



Ecclesbourne Primary School

Newsletter 21st March 2014



Dear Parents and Carers,

Finally, Spring is upon us and we have started to see some better weather. The children have been able to get onto the field and we can get more involved in outdoor activities like today's Sport Relief. It has been a busy time in school and I am always amazed by the range of opportunities and events taking place. In the past few weeks we've had 'The Bug Man' in Reception, Year 1 hunting for the Flum Flum tree, Year 2 meeting Willy Wonka, Year 3 visiting the local church, Year 4 being coached by rugby professionals, Year 5 visiting the Museum of London and Year 6 visiting Bensham Manor to take part in science activities. The staff are to be commended for all the hard work they put in to provide these opportunities and ensure we have an exciting and engaging curriculum for the children.

The Bug Man As part of their work studying mini beasts, the children in Reception had a visit from The Bug Man. This is a great learning experience with children being given the chance to see and handle some fascinating creatures. They saw everything from hissing cockroaches to a hairy tarantula. The children were extremely interested and in many cases braver than the staff. They were able to demonstrate their knowledge and could tell me all about the differences between insects and spiders, naming all the various body parts. It was a great day and a really fun way to learn about the wonderful world of insects.



Attendance and Punctuality Last week's attendance award was a draw with both Asteroids and Astronauts managing to hit 99.69% attendance. Well done to both classes. We still have a number of children who are regularly late, even if only by a few minutes. Leaving the house ten minutes earlier would mean the majority of our late children would arrive on time. I would love to be able to report that one week we had no lates whatsoever.

The Poppy Appeal Many thanks to everyone who supported The Poppy Appeal in November. The school raised £128.

Parking and Road Safety. Thank you to all the parents who have responded so positively following my letter last week about parking on Attlee Close. I have noticed that it is much quieter in the mornings and people are keeping the yellow lines clear. This enables traffic to flow and, more importantly, means the children have a safe place to cross. Hopefully, this will be a permanent improvement and not a passing phase. On the subject of safe crossing places, a parent is organising a petition to try and get a safer crossing place on Bensham Lane. Our Junior Road Safety Officers will be out collecting signatures next week so please pledge your support for this issue.

Parents' Evening. Again, thanks to all the parents who attended our parents' evenings. I know that the staff value this important time to discuss your child's learning and progress. It also demonstrates to the children that we are working in partnership to give them the education they deserve. If you were unable to attend and have not yet managed to rebook an appointment, please speak to your child's teacher.

Other events in the coming weeks

Wednesday 26th March Industrial action– School closed for some children

Wednesday 2nd April Shuttles class assembly

Friday 4th April Last day of term

Tuesday 22nd April First day of summer term.

Paul Robins–
Head of School
Ecclesbourne Primary School