



All newsletters are available at: www.eastburyfarm.herts.sch.uk

Newsletter: 24th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Those of you who were in school today to watch Mr Morton's last class assembly will agree it was a wonderful way to our half term and such a fantastic performance. The last eight weeks have flown past. We started our summer term with a smile inspired by Electric Umbrella's uplifting assembly and today's assembly has certainly left a smile on my face. Looking back across the previous eight weeks our children, as well as their daily learning, have been involved in healthy eating workshops, new sporting activities, been league winners, competed in league winners' tournaments, contributed to our community through litter picks, plastic pledges, designed and planted a sensory garden and begun rehearsing for a performance in St Albans cathedral to sing with the choristers of the Abbey. Alongside this our year 6 children have sat their SATS tests. Whatever the outcomes, all of the children put in their absolute best effort. They were focussed, calm and took the challenge in their stride. They were reminded that what is most important is their effort. Many of the children gave up clubs, came to school early, stayed late and completed extra homework to be able to give their best. We are very proud of all our year 6 children. Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter and the snapshot this gives of the exciting learning that has been taking place over the last few weeks.

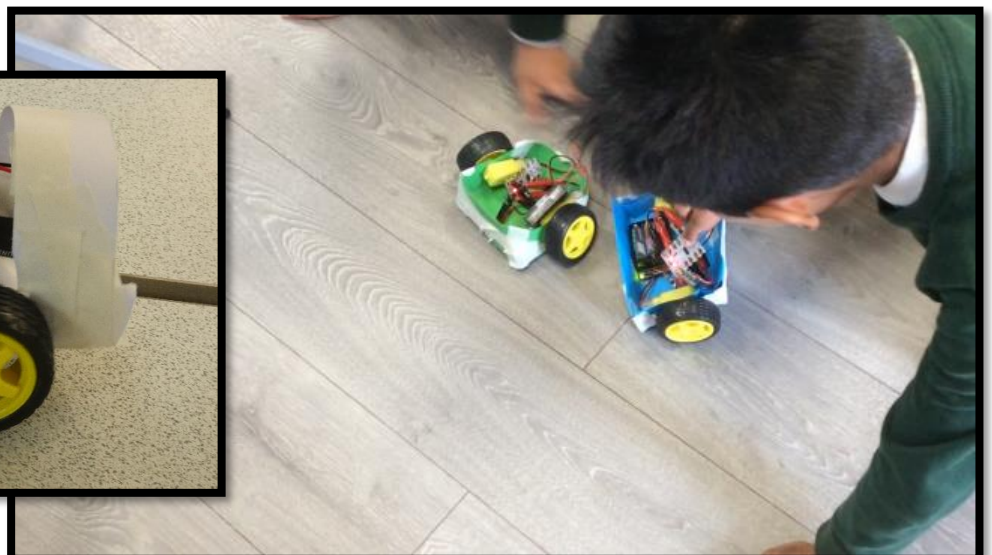
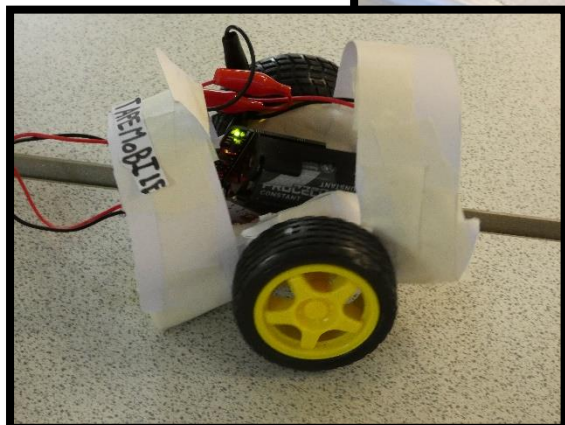
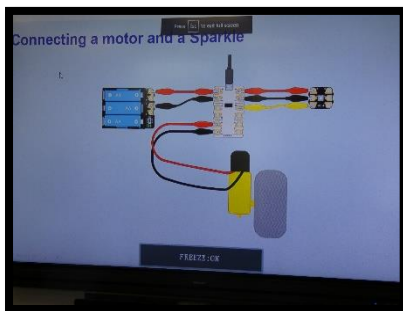
Nursery



This term in Nursery, we have been learning all Pirates and treasure! We have had fun exploring treasure maps, reading lots of different stories about pirates and painting lots of fabulous pictures. On Monday it was World Bee Day, so nursery spent time learning about how important Bees are to our world. We had so much fun painting them, making 3D Bees and spiral bees.

Crumbles in year 5.6

Ms Lawrence, our specialist computing teacher, has been teaching our year 5.6 children to bring together their programming and design technology skills to create their own controllable moving object. The children have worked incredibly hard at mastering the complex skills to effectively use a programmable controller using the Crumble programme and accessories.



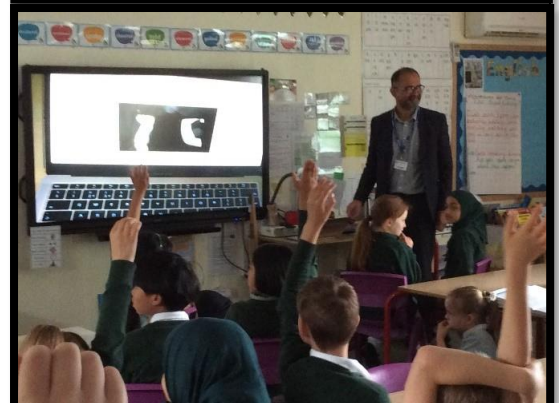
Mummification, skeletons and bones in Maple

As part of our learning about Ancient Egypt, and to understand the mummification process ready for our explanation texts, Maple have been mummifying tomatoes! We had to clean the body, scoop out the organs (except for the brain) to be placed in Canopic jars. We covered the body in natron salt and then stuffed the tomato before wrapping it in 'linen'.



Science

Linking to our learning about the human skeleton in Science, Hasan's Dad, Mr Shaikh, who is an orthopaedic surgeon, came to visit Maple class! We learned what a typical day as an orthopaedic surgeon is like and about the skills, and qualifications you need to become one too! Hasan's dad answered many of our questions about bones and we learned that bones are brittle but heal themselves! Hasan's dad also explained that fibre, calcium and exercise were important to keep our bones healthy.



A big thank you to Mr Shaikh for volunteering his time!

Eco update

No doubt lots of you are enjoying seeing our Sensory Garden take shape. All our classes are now sharing responsibility for watering the young plants (although the weather so far hasn't required such dedication!). We are still in need of 7 log slices and a pond plant or two. If any of our community can help out with this, we'd be most grateful.



The Great Big Green Week is taking place between the 8th and the 16th June and there are many ways to get involved. The week includes events from more than 40 organisations across Watford and Three Rivers. There is so much to do on our doorstep and most of it is free. Please have a look at the full programme for the week

[Great Big Green Week calendar](#)

Half Term Homework challenges

The Eco-Warriors would like to challenge every family to collect a bag of rubbish from a public space to help contribute to a cleaner, safer environment. Please remember to carry out this activity as a family with adult support, please wear gloves and do not pick up sharp objects and of course wash your hands afterwards. Any family that manages to take part could post a picture on @just1bag2020 or send a picture into school for the attention of Mrs Holt.

Values challenge

You will hopefully have seen the letter from Mrs Cachra regarding the whole school home learning task that we invite all children to take part in. Values have been an integral part of our shared language and ethos this year, and we have been amazed at how the children have responded to this. The current focus value across the school is **honesty**, which has been discussed at class level, in assemblies and one to one with children, they are embracing it all. Should your child need any resources for this task, please speak to a member of staff who will be happy to help.

House Basketball competition



Passions ran high this week as our four houses battled it out in a basketball tournament. Matches took place every lunchtime. Our overall winner was Red House, beating Green House 3-2 in the final. Blue house showed some excellent resilience as although they lost all their group games, they beat Yellow House 4-2 in the third place match. Well done to all the children who took part. Thank you very much to Mr Davies who used his lunchtimes to run this exciting opportunity.

Attendance

Chestnut	Sycamore	Elm	Larch	Spruce	Cedar A	Willow	Cedar B	Pine	Oak	Maple	Total
97.9%	97.3%	97.2%	95.5%	95.5%	95.2%	94.6%	93.6%	92.1%	91.7%	87.3%	94.3%

Having met with our attendance office earlier this week, she was disappointed that our overall annual attendance had slipped from our previous meeting in the autumn. Not being in school every day does impact your child. It has an impact on learning, friendships, social skills and life skills. We know that children get ill and cannot be in school, however much of our absence is unauthorised absence because parents are removing children from their education to take them on holidays. This is particularly prevalent just before a school holiday and just afterwards. Our term dates are published well in advance to support parents in planning holidays that are not in school time.

Disco fun



Thank you to our parent volunteers and the team at EFSA for organising a much enjoyed disco for the children. From our youngest nursery children to our oldest Year 6 children, all enjoyed the party atmosphere and the chance to dance!



Eastbury Recreation Ground



The recreation ground next to our school is a wonderful place for all our community. The children played an important role this week in contributing to its development. A new playground is planned and Three Rivers District Council would like the views of the community, including the children on how this should look. Lisa from TRDC came in to talk to the children about the various design options they were thinking of. Our school council and Eco-Warriors then visited the site with Lisa and Mrs Cachra to talk about what they loved and what they would change. We are proud to be able to contribute to the development of our local

community space.

The recreation ground will also be used to commemorate D Day 80 on the 6th June. We are thrilled that our choir has been invited to sing on this special occasion. As well as singing to our own backing tracks, the choir also have the honour of being accompanied by the Royal Navy Volunteer Band. At 20:55 two of our pupils will be reading a poem specially written for the commemoration.

In other news Jahmeel, one of our year 5 pupils, is taking part in a 5K run on Saturday June 8th at Cassiobury Park. Jahmeel is running to raise money for Cancer Research UK. Good luck Jahmeel and we hope you raise lots of money for this important charity. [Race for Life sponsorship link](#)

Batchworth
Community Council
Eastbury - Moor Park - Rickmansworth

D DAY 80
COMMEMORATION EVENT

YOU ARE INVITED TO COMMEMORATE THE 80TH
ANNIVERSARY OF D DAY ON 6/6/24 AT 7PM

BATCHWORTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL SUPPORTED BY
THEIR FRIENDS AT NORTHWOOD HQ WOULD LIKE YOU
TO COME TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY FOR THE
CEREMONIAL LIGHTING OF THE BEACON AND
LOWERING OF THE UNION FLAG AN EVENT TAKING
PLACE NATIONALLY.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO BRING A PICNIC OR PURCHASE
FOOD AT THE RECREATION GROUND.
ENJOY PERFORMANCES FROM NORTHWOOD
HEADQUARTERS ROYAL NAVY VOLUNTEER BAND AND
EASTBURY FARM SCHOOL CHOIR.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
WWW.BATCHWORTH-ECC.GOV.UK/EVENT/D-DAY-80TH-ANNIVERSARY/

Happy Retirement Mrs Brown!



We were really sad to say 'goodbye' to Mrs Brown today. Mrs Brown has been a familiar person in our school kitchen for 24 years! What a lot of dedication and service Mrs Brown has given to the children of Eastbury Farm. We are sorry to see Mrs Brown leave us but know that she will be back to visit. We wish Mrs Brown a wonderful retirement and we know she has lots of plans, including sorting out her garden! Thank you Mrs Brown.





Finally, I am sure many of you have noticed that Mrs Pearson has not been with us for the last couple of weeks. She has recently been unwell and is currently on the mend. I am sure you will join me in wishing her a speedy recovery. She is an integral part of the team at Eastbury Farm and we are missing her presence. Get well soon Mrs Pearson!

As we approach the half term, no doubt parents will be thinking about how to keep your children busy and active over the week. At the end of the newsletter are flyers for activities in our local area – most of these are free or ask for a small fee. Please have a look and I hope you enjoy some of what is going on! The library is also a great place to visit and free to join.

Have a wonderful half term break and I will look forward to seeing everyone back for our final half term of the year on Monday 3rd June.

Best wishes

Miss Ormonde

What's on in Watford and Three Rivers?

GROUNDWORK
CHANGING PLACES
CHANGING LIVES

WildPlay

Join us this May half term for **FREE WildPlay** family sessions. Activities include scavenger hunts, bug hunting, natural arts and crafts, exploring nature and learning through play. **Booking essential.**

- > **Date:** Thursday 30th May
- > **Time:** 10:00am-11:30am
- > **Location:** **Chorleywood House Estate**, Chorleywood, Rickmansworth WD3 5SL
- > For children aged 2-9 years (older and younger siblings welcome)
- > Children must be accompanied for the whole session

BOOK NOW via Eventbrite:
1 ticket per family

Contact: Rachel Rice
T: 07809 201254
E: Rachel.rice@groundwork.org.uk

Thanks to funding from: **THREE RIVERS DISTRICT COUNCIL**



"What's On?"

SPLASH POOLS

at Cassiobury Park are open to all ages. This a free facility but the council asks for donations when booking on the Everyone Active App.



WALK IN NATURE

Go to Cassiobury Park for a walk in nature and visit The bluebells at Whippendell Woods, the ancient trees including the 'Cedar of Lebanon' dating over 100 years.



Visit the wildflower meadows and nature reserve and spot the different varieties of butterflies, insects and birds.

For all Cassiobury Park Activities please click on following link; [Cassiobury Park activities www.watford.gov.uk](http://www.watford.gov.uk)



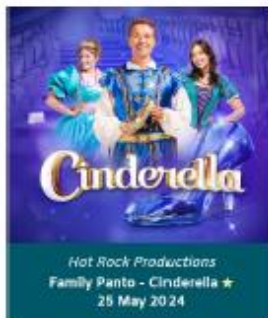
STEVENS FUNFAIR returns to Cassiobury Park May 25th to June 2nd

Merry-go-rounds, bumper cars and candy floss will all make a comeback this summer.

The fair has operated in the town for over 70 years and in 2023, it brought new rides to Watford, including 'The Giant Star Flyer', 'The Extreme', and 'Super Trooper'.

No need to book, just pay as you go. Rides from £2.50 to £5.

<https://watfordtowncentre.com/event/watford-fun-fair/>



Showing at Watersmeet Theatre this half-term. <https://www.watersmeet.co.uk/shows-and-events>



FREE Activities to do at home

- **Build a Habitat** - use natural materials - sticks, moss, soil, wood and make an insect hotel.
- **Have a Family Bake Off** - challenge yourself against another family member to make something creative and delicious using ingredients you already have in the house.
- **Arts & Crafts** - get stuck into some colouring, making pictures with leaves, flowers or a collage from cutting out pics in old magazines.

WildPlay Sessions



May dates should be displayed on their website shortly <https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/services/leisure-parks-culture/nature/wildplay>

EATING OUT

TESCO Kids Eat Free when an adult makes any purchase when dining in the café between 27-31 May (excludes weekends).



Download the Too Good to Go App and enjoy food from local bakeries or restaurants at 1/2 the price.

IMAGINATIVE STORY TELLING

with Kathryn Holt

Rickmansworth Aquadrome,
Frogmoor Lane WD3 1NB

The much-loved Storytent is making its way to the Aquadrome!

Find a spot and get comfortable, as Storyteller Kathryn Holt leads you on a memorable journey.

Through interactive, imaginative storytelling and the wonderful use of props, children will learn more about the magic of this nature reserve and importantly how we can protect it for the future.

WEDNESDAY
29 MAY

11am - 12.15pm or
1.30pm - 2.45pm

£3 per child

Suitable for young
children and
their grown-ups

