



Englefield CE Primary School

Sowing the Seeds for a Flourishing Future

Everyone at Englefield has been very busy learning in and out of the classroom – mainly ‘in’ due to the recent inclement weather!



Mrs Sheppard’s class has definitely been making the most of the outdoors and the children have been Woodland Learning every Friday. They have been looking at place value in teen numbers; whilst in the woods, they collected lots of sticks and tied them into bundles to make one lot of ten. They then used individual sticks to provide the extra ones.

The classroom is full of their growing seedlings as they prepare for filling their garden with fruit and veg plants; they have also enjoyed looking after our tortoise, Pebbles, and learning about what he needs each day to keep healthy. The class also has a lovely mini indoor pond in which they have hatched tadpoles, ready to go into our school pond.

To add to the menagerie, Mrs Karen Elliott, local chicken breeder and good friend to the school, brought in four of her chickens - they enjoyed roaming in the outside area. The children learnt about looking after chickens and the different types of chicken that Mrs



Elliott breeds and shows. Mrs Elliott also brought in 32 chicken eggs which she set up in an incubator for us to hatch in class. They hatched and we had 9 beautiful little chicks running around a special indoor pen. They stayed with us until the half term break before returning to Mrs Elliott’s outdoor pens. All of this excitement has inspired some super independent writing.



As part of our learning on our school values, Year 1 and 2 have been thinking about what it means to be 'Sowing the seeds for a flourishing future' by planting bulbs, seeds and potatoes. Noah taught the class how to make plant labels. They have even set up a growing competition for our 4 school houses.



The children in Years 3 and 4 have been learning about the Romans and have created some wonderful ‘double-page spreads’. The children in this class were also lucky enough to go on a two night residential trip to Foxlease Guiding Centre in Lyndhurst just before the half term break. They took part in many exciting activities including archery, tunneling, team-building and orienteering. The children supported each other brilliantly and you wouldn’t have known this was the first time away from home for many of them; they were a credit to the school. A huge thank you to the staff and Mrs Fearn who gave up their time to take them.



Years 5 and 6 brought their learning about 'The Explorer' to life by trying edible insects. They tasted like popcorn and peanuts and nearly everyone had a taste. One of our Year 5 pupils said, "I think dried bugs are my new favourite snack!" The class was very brave and nearly everyone tried them- even though they were a bit put off by their appearance. Grace, in Year 5, won the opportunity to teach the class in the game 'Homeworkopoly'. Grace taught the class about writing imaginatively in the context of Greek Gods. This class are now looking forward to preparing their end of year production and also going on a 2 night camping trip to Rushall Farm.

Finally, this is the last magazine article I will be writing before the end of the school year. In July, Mrs Julia Kidd, our School Business Manager, will be retiring after 24 years of service at the school – an incredible achievement! Many people in the local area will know Julia and may want to do something to recognise her contribution to the local community. We will have a 'Good wishes' book in the school office on **Thursdays and Fridays** after the half term break if anyone would like to come in and add a message. We will also be making a collection if you would like to contribute to a leaving gift.

