



Dear Parents and Carers,

Today we held our annual Ellen Wilkinson Maths Day. We use this to specifically highlight how maths is used and is important in different aspects of our daily lives. The theme this year was Maths in the context of food and drink, and incorporated elements such as fractions and measurement. There was also a maths treasure hunt for our older pupils who scoured the school all morning in search of their next problem to solve! The children have all had an amazing time developing and applying their maths skills. Thank you to all staff for their support in this event and particularly to Ms Feeney our Maths Leader.

Sue Ferguson



Handwriting

One of our school priorities this year is handwriting as we are finding that a number of our children are struggling to meet the end of year expectations in this area. Therefore over the coming weeks you may find that your child may have additional handwriting practice at home and that there is a greater emphasis on their presentation. We will also send out more information after half term on how to support your child in this area and the expectations in this regard for the end of the year.

Contributions Towards School Trips

Sadly, the Governing Body and I need to make you aware that we have had to start cancelling some educational visits due to insufficient voluntary contributions being collected.

As you know from the national news, all schools are currently facing unparalleled budget cuts, for EWPS that amounts to potentially **£224,000** annual reduction by 2020; this is the equivalent of 4 teachers! **These cuts have already begun to take effect**, and in such a financial climate we have no option but to ask for financial contributions for some visits if you wish your child to enjoy the same rich experience that previous pupils have enjoyed. If you would like to check this for yourself please go to <https://schoolcuts.org.uk> and type in the school's postcode (E6 5UP).



I would like to stress that we fully utilise free transport & venues as much as possible and if we do ask for a contribution it is because that experience cannot be replicated elsewhere at a cheaper cost. In addition to these actions the school subsidises educational visits by **£25,000 each year!** This includes significant subsidies for the residential visits at Fairplay House, which your children have access to in years 5 and 6.

To clarify, legally we can only ask for voluntary contributions we cannot insist; however we can no longer afford to subsidise significant shortfalls in contributions on top of the subsidy we already provide, and therefore the only option we have is to cancel educational visits that do not recoup enough money.

I'm sure you agree that our children gain a huge amount from participating in these experiences and they have a significant impact on their understanding and motivation. Therefore we would really appreciate your support in this matter going forwards so that our children's experiences are not limited. Thank you.



Parents Evening

Parents Evening is tomorrow Thursday (19th) for all classes. If you have not yet booked an appointment to see your child's teacher please do so as a matter of urgency. There will also be the opportunity for you try some of the dishes from the new school menu that will be starting after half term and also meet with some of our governors.



Photographs

Please remember that if you wish to purchase a copy please send completed form and monies back to school by Monday 30th October. Thank you

Stars of the Week



Class	Name	Value(s)
6 Shark	Gustas	Heard and Cared For (For being a supportive classmate and always helping your partner)
6 Whale	Gabriela	Resilience (for continuing to try and improve an excellent piece of writing)
5 Dolphin	Kernius	Heard and Cared For (For helping others in the class. Always an excellent team member)
5 Stingray	Tajus	Resilience (For his resilience during Maths this week)
4 Octopus	Jogaile	Respect (For sharing her ideas and respecting other children's opinions)
4 Seahorse	Maileigh	Successful (For making great progress in handwriting and presentation)
3 Lobster	Chidi	Successful (For fantastic historical knowledge. Well done)
3 Turtle	Nisha	Resilience (For always trying her hardest even when she finds work difficult)
2 Jellyfish	Ieva	Inspire (For inspiring home learning tasks)
2 Starfish	Micah	Successful (For drawing a great message he learnt in RE)
1 Clownfish	Melissa	Successful (For being able to use the correct vocabulary during Discovery)
1 Lionfish	Jill	Resilience (For persevering when publishing her first story in English)
Guppy 1		<i>Will start next week</i>
Guppy 2		<i>Will start next week</i>

Our stars are awarded in Friday assemblies to children who have shown particular commitment to our school values during the week. To say thank you we ask them to come to the front in our assembly and they can choose a friend to sit with them at their own special table at lunchtime that day.



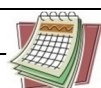
House Winners

Congratulations to everyone in **Albert Einstein** House for having the most house points this week



Attendance and Punctuality Winners

Attendance winners for the 2nd – 6th October are **Starfish and Shark 100% attendance**
Punctuality winners for the week are: **Shark, Stingray, Dolphin, Lobster and Jellyfish = 0 lates**



Upcoming Diary Dates

OCTOBER



Date	Time(s)	Year Group(s)	Details	Parent Event?
Thu 19 th	3.30 – 7 p.m.	All	Parents evening	YES
Thu 19 th	2.45 p.m.	4	Seahorse class assembly	YES
Fri 20 th	9 am & 2 pm (event repeated)	All	Parents meeting - Equalities	YES
23rd – 27th		All	HALF TERM	
NOVEMBER				
Date	Time(s)	Year	Details	Parent



		Group(s)		Event?
Wed 1 st	2.30 p.m.	3, 4 & 5	Parent Meeting - Reading At Home for Years 3, 4 & 5	YES
Thu 2 nd	2.45 p.m.	6	Whale class assembly	YES
Fri 3 rd	9 am & 2 pm (event repeated)	All	Parents meeting - Inclusion	YES
6 th – 10 th	3.15 – 3.45 p.m.	All	Book Fair	YES
6 th – 10 th	N/A	All	Anti-Bullying Week	NO
Wed 8 th	2.30 p.m	All	Parents meeting - Anti-bullying week (How to keep your child safe online)	YES