

Sowing the seeds for a flourishing future

Issue 6 - February 2025

# Englefield CE Primary School Newsletter

## **Pebbles is Back!!**

Pebbles has come out of his 22 week hibernation and is bursting with energy. Mrs Harwood donated a lovely enclosed box for Pebbles which is keeping him nice and warm during these chilly early spring days. He now needs more volunteers to look after him at weekends and in the holidays. When he visits a home, he comes with his tortoise table including the heat and UV lamps, instructions for how to care for him, his bath and often some lettuce - he is a very good house guest. It is best if he can be kept away from other household pets to avoid conflict (!) and the spread of any animal infections.

If your family would like to host Pebbles, please email the school office and we will add you to our list.

## **A Note From Nabugabo**



Dear Englefield Primary School

I am currently in Uganda, working at the Nabugabo Primary School and we have just had the start of the new school year. Thanks to your incredible support, all 140 children received a full school uniform and sports kit, much of which was donated by Englefield. The children and staff here are so grateful - your fundraising efforts and generous donations of uniform, resources and underwear have made a real difference. To them it is not just about the clothes but the fact that it gives them a sense of identity, pride and belonging.

As we discussed at the assembly we came to, many of our children come from difficult backgrounds, and your kindness is key to supporting them and knowing that they are loved by another primary school even from so far away - Thank you so much.

The whole school joins me in sending our warmest thanks to all the children, parents and staff and we hope you know what a positive impact Englefield have made. I attach a couple of photos taken yesterday for you.

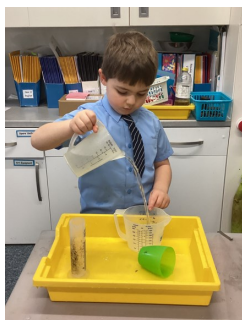
Best wishes  
Mel Brandon  
Trustee - The HUGE Partnership



**Year 3 and 4** have been using their imaginations and their furniture to recreate an authentic cave painting experience. The children all snuck under the table and created the most beautiful cave art using charcoal. Evalyn said, "First we had a piece of sketching paper stuck under the table. We used chalk to copy an actual cave painting and then we transferred it on to our sketching paper to make the art". In IT they are beginning to get to grips with the challenging art of touch typing. It is a valuable skill to know.

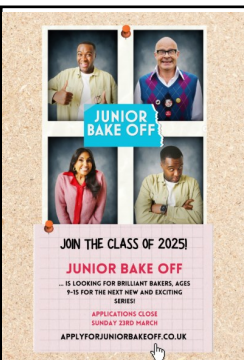


**Years 1 and 2** have been learning about William Caxton. They are fascinated about his introducing the printing press to England and grateful that he retained the first printed books in this country. Just imagine what school would be like today with no books!



In science, Year 1 has been investigating and comparing capacity. Milo is learning that the same volume of water can look very different in different containers.

**FS2** have been looking at the first signs of spring. Being very excited at the notion that Rev. Julia would finally be returning, they took some pictures to send to her in Australia to let her know that she wouldn't be coming home to a rainy wet England but a beautiful blossoming English spring time. One of the pictures they thought they would send is one of the blossom on the tree in her very own garden but they were in for a surprise because guess who popped out of the door when they went over there...the one and only Reverend Julia. They were half an hour too late and never did send their picture but they were so very happy to see her home. Welcome back Rev. Julia!



Is your child showing a flare for baking yummy treats in the kitchen? Well Channel 4 are looking for their next line up of junior bakers. Follow the information on the flyer to apply.

## **Building Cars**

For their design projects, Years 5 and 6 have been building cars.



"In DT we made cars that move with circuits and motors. We used hacksaws to cut balsa block on a bench hook, after measuring the sides carefully. Next, we added axle holders, axles and wheels. The cars moved along.

To make the vehicles go along by themselves we added pulley wheels and elastic bands. The pulley wheels were powered by a motor in an electrical circuit. We had to problem solve and engineer solutions when the cars didn't run smoothly or straight!

Thankfully we had lots of adults to help us. Special thanks to Mrs Fenwick, Mrs Burgess, Mr Richardson, Mrs Read, Mr Hills, Mrs Mason, Mrs Cooksley and Mrs Pickett who gave up their time.



We had a few options to make the design such as coloured paper and pens. We added decorative card and foam to make our cars detailed and attractive. Everyone gave their car a nick-

name. Luke: I designed the world's first Flintstone Porsche! Isla: My car is the cheesemobile.

We had multiple races including a race for speed won by Gracie and a fun race won by Elliot R. Our cars were also judged on their appearance - Elliot and Milla came joint first in the clapathon. We had a really fun time making them and learnt a lot."

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

All dates are available on our website.

3rd - 7th March	Book Week
6th March	3.35pm: Thirtover Meeting for Year 3/4 parents
7th March	Celebration Assembly
11th March	pm: 8 x Y5/6 cross-country at Elstree
13th March	pm: 8 x Year 2s to Elstree Football Festival; pm: 14 x Y5/6 to French play at St Andrew's
20th March	9am: Year 2 Class Assembly
21st March	Red Nose Day 2.30pm: Parents Forum 3pm: Celebration Assembly
24th March	Junior Music Festival - choir
26th March	8 x Y4/5 boys to Oratory Football Tournament
29th - 30th March	Art Exhibition in Pangbourne Village Hall