



[www.essendon.herts.sch.uk](http://www.essendon.herts.sch.uk)  
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Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Our Value this Half Term: Love Yourself

Dear Essendon Families,  
**Advent Is Beginning**



Sunday marks the beginning of Advent and the time that we look forward to the arrival of Jesus. Revd Alan, from St Andrew's Church, came and led a whole school Collective Worship this week and taught us about the Advent wreath candles and their meaning. He said Advent was a time to stop and get ready because a King is coming. Let's all find a time to stop and think about the real meaning of Christmas and God's gift to us.

**We Are Writers!**

Homewood Class are now published writers. Their acrostic poems have won The Young Writers poetry competition and are going to be published in 'This Is Me! Acrostics – Little Dreamers' book. This is a huge achievement and shows just how wonderful the children's writing is and how much progress they are making, well done Mrs Jones and the Homewood Team. We look forward to receiving the book from the publishers in January.



**Cookery Club**



Our After School Cookery Club is such good fun and Mrs Sharman has amazing ideas that are great fun as well as develop cooking skills. This week Cookery Club baked and decorated cupcakes, all with a wintry theme!

**Harefield's Science**



In Harefield, the children have been learning about Darwin's finches and the different beak adaptations. To replicate this, they used chopsticks, pegs and tweezers as 'beaks' to try and pick up different types of food. Emilio said that he learnt, "The peg best represents the large ground finch because its beak is thick to crack seeds."

### Homewood's History



Homewood have been really enjoying their Titanic history topic this term, learning from primary sources of historical fact all about the British passenger liner that sank in the North Atlantic Ocean on 15 April 1912 after striking an iceberg.

### Water Safety And The RNLI



Harefield and Warrenwood were visited by Bob from the RNLI to talk about the history of the amazing charity and how to stay safe in the water. Remember: stop and think; stay together; float and call 999 or 112.

### Prizes, prizes, prizes!

Do you feel lucky? We hope so because our Christmas raffle tickets are selling well so we could all be winners. There are lots of exciting prizes including a 3-course meal at Lussmans, 18 holes at Essendon Golf Club and tickets for Knebworth House, Willows Farm and The Snow Centre there's something for everyone. Raffle tickets have come home with each child so please sell them to friends and family. Stubbs and money should be returned to Miss Moore in the School Office and she has plenty of extra tickets if you are keen to sell more. The draw will take place at the Christmas Fayre in the Hall at 4pm on 15th December. Good luck!

### Dates For Your Diary

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm – Pantherswood and Homewood Nativity  
 Wed 13<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch  
 Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 3:15pm - Christmas Fayre in the Hall  
 Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2:15pm – Christmas Carol Service, all welcome at the Church.

### And finally ..

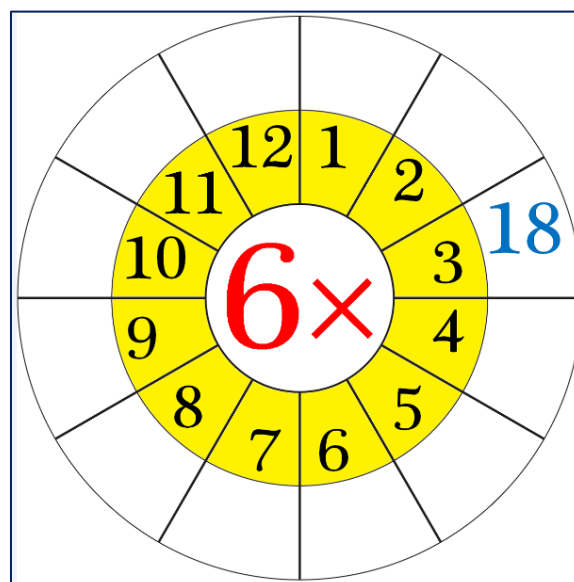
If you have any comics or children's magazines that you do not want any more please send them in to the Office for Homewood Class, thank you.

**Have a very happy weekend and wrap up warm!**

**from Ms Canham**



### Your Weekend Times Table Challenge



# Neurodiversity Support Hub

For Parents, Carers and Professionals

We can offer support, signposting and guidance about a whole range of things including but not limited to:

No  
Diagnosis  
Required

- Understanding ADHD/Autism
- Distressed Behaviours
- Anxiety
- School

The phones are answered by our team of parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people

Are you a  
Parent, Carer  
or  
Professional?



01727 833963 




[supporthub@add-vance.org](mailto:supporthub@add-vance.org)

Open Monday-Friday  
9 AM - 1PM



We Can't:

- Give updates/ fast track places on waiting lists
- Recommend specific private assessors

Here to support, reach out for a listening ear 





## Essendon C of E (VC) Primary School

### **Term Dates: 2023/2024**

#### **Autumn Term - 2023**

Friday 1st September – **INSET Day** – staff only

Monday 4th September – Start of term for pupils – 8:40am doors open, doors close at 8:50am

Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October – Half Term

Wednesday 20th December – End of Term - 1:15pm

#### **Spring Term - 2024**

Thursday 4th January – **Occasional Day** – School Closed

Friday 5th January – **INSET Day** – staff only

Monday 8th January – Start of term for pupils

Monday 19th to Friday 23rd February - Half Term

Thursday 28th March - End of Term – 1:15pm

#### **Summer Term - 2024**

Monday 15th April – **INSET Day** – staff only

Tuesday 16th April – Start of term for pupils

Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday

Monday 27th to Friday 31st May – Half Term

Thursday 11th July – Year 6 Secondary School Transition Day

Friday 19th July – End of term - 1:15pm

Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July – **INSET Days** – staff only