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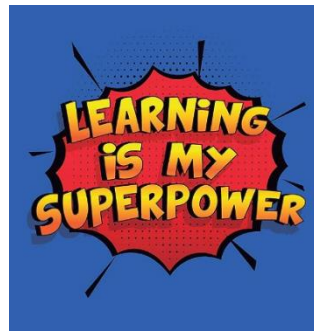
Friday 8th September 2023

Our Value this Half Term: The Essendon Way

Dear Essendon Families,


Welcome back

Welcome back everyone and a very warm welcome to our new families. We have had a lovely start to the new academic year and in Collective Worship we thought about how learning is our super power!



The Essendon Way

The start of term has meant that all children have been able to learn about The Essendon

<p>The Essendon Way</p> 
<p>Our Vision</p> <p>‘Encouraging everyone’s light to shine.’</p> <p><small>Matthew 5:16</small></p>

Way. The Essendon Way is how we live out our Vision ‘Encouraging Everyone’s Light To Shine’ and our Values ‘Love Yourself, Love Others, Love God, Love Learning, Love The World You Live In.’ We

have been reminded of our Golden Rules and the key elements of kindness and respect that guide us everyday in school.

RAAC – Collapsing Concrete

From Simon Newland, Director of Education, Herts County Council. You may well have seen in the news that some schools have been affected by the presence of RAAC in their buildings. RAAC, or Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete, is a lightweight form of concrete which was used in schools and other building construction from the 1950s until the mid-1990s. After some time and in some circumstances this concrete can collapse. I wanted to write to reassure you that this school was constructed at a time when RAAC was not being used in construction and we can therefore be confident that there is no RAAC in this school building.

A Massive Thank You!



A huge thank you to the Morton Family for giving so much of their time to the school over the holidays. The Morton Family have weeded, rotavated and dug over the vegetable garden so it is now ready to be used by the School. And they have made a water kitchen for Homewood Class. The children have loved exploring the water kitchen and been having great fun with it this week. Thank you so much to Jo, Shane, Evie and Theo.

Meet the Teacher – Class Meetings

We look forward to seeing you at our Meet The Teacher after school sessions next week. Come along and hear about the learning for this term and any class messages. Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th or Thursday 14th September at 3:15pm to 3:45pm.

Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

Remember our Breakfast Club is open to bookings – 7:30am to 8:40am and we have a range of clubs on offer after school – 3:15pm to 5pm contact the Office for places.

School Meals Are Free!



Did you know that school dinners are absolutely free for Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2 (Pantherswood and Homewood). See the attached menu for all the choices. The meals are delicious and there is lots on offer. Why not pick a day and try for free!

Music Lessons

Mr Hampshire is starting individual instrumental lessons next week – if you would like your child to learn the guitar, piano, ukulele or keyboards please contact the Office.

Harvest Service – save the date

Our Harvest Service will be in the church on Thursday 5th Oct at 2:30pm all parents and carers are welcome. We will be collecting tins and packets for the foodbank nearer the time.

Staffing News

We are so excited to have two new sporty staff members. A big welcome to Mr Lincoln who joins us as an apprentice teaching assistant.



And to Mr Green who is our PE and Football Club Coach. It is fantastic to have them both on the Essendon Team.

Dates for your diary

12th/13th/14th September – 3:15pm to 3:45pm

Meet The Teacher

Thurs 5th Oct – Harvest Service at the church, 2:30pm parents welcome. Foodbank collection.

October – Black History Month

Mon 9th October – School Photos

Half Term – Mon 23rd Oct to Fri 27th Oct

Fri 10th Nov – Remembrance Assembly 2:30pm

parents welcome in school

13th to 17th Nov – Anti-bullying Week

Fri 17th Nov – Children in Need – cake sale and non-uniform £1.

Tuesday 21st November – Parent Teacher Meetings all classes

Wednesday 22nd November Parent Teacher Meetings – Homework

Thursday 23rd November – Parent Teacher Meetings - Harefield, Warrenwood and Pantherswood

Reading

Reading is the gateway to knowledge. We expect all our learners to be reading at home, please read at least three times a week, children who read regularly make the most progress with their learning. Learning is our super power!



Have a lovely weekend, **from Ms Canham**

Have a look at this great website that has maths

and reading games for all ages.



Inspire learning with our magical reading and mathematics games for kids

<https://www.teachyourmonster.org/>



Hello from Friends of Essendon School,

Friends of Essendon School (or FOES 😊) exists for two reasons:

1. To give all children at Essendon School fun and exciting extracurricular activities to look forward to
2. To raise funds for the school

We're a small team and are charity registered; Tippy (Penny and Hanson's mum) is our Chair, Jo (Maisie and Aidan's mum) is our Treasurer and Fiona (Joshy and Ollie's mum) is our Note Taker.

Our first event this year will be the (belated) **Summer Picnic**. We'd love it if you could join us:

**Saturday 23rd September
12-4pm**

We'll be selling burgers and hotdogs 12-2pm, with vegetarian options available, and later we'll sell some ice-creams too. Drinks are 'bring your own' but we will have free squash and water available. There will also be a bouncy castle, sponsored by Statons, with unlimited bounces for all the children. Please note that all children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.

Coming up

We've already got lots planned for the year ahead which you can keep up to date with by reading the newsletter or joining our [WhatsApp group](#).



We'll also be holding termly meetings for anyone who'd like to come along and get more involved in planning the activities and fundraising.

Speak soon,

Tippy, Jo and Fiona 😊

Get the word out to your local community and your friends, we have school tours for our fantastic Reception and Nursery (30 hours). Please take a picture of this leaflet and post on your social media pages and let's share the news about our lovely school.



Are you applying for a Reception Class place in September?

Come and visit us at Essendon C of E Primary School

A small school with a big heart



Situated in the beautiful village of Essendon, with an idyllic setting and ease of access from Welwyn Garden City, Hertford, Hatfield and Potters Bar, Essendon C of E Primary School is an ideal option for those seeking a small, community-based school, with all the benefits that brings to a child's education.



... Give us a call
or send an email
and come and have
a look round our school

We would love to meet you

admin@essendon.herts.sch.uk
01707 261209
School Lane, Essendon
AL9 6HD



Visit our website at www.essendon.herts.sch.uk

School dinners are absolutely free for Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2.

HCL		WEEK ONE					PUPILS' CHOICE EXTRA MENU						
		Served Week Commencing: 4th Sep, 25th Sep, 16th Oct, 13th Nov, 4th Dec, 8th Jan, 29th Jan, 26th Feb, 18th March											
		MONDAY Quorn Burger In a Bun (V) Baked Bean and Cheese Slice (V) with Diced Potatoes or Pasta Tomato Pasta with Cheese (V) CHILLED OPTION: Cream Cheese Sandwich (V)		TUESDAY Beef Bolognese Sweet Potato and Pea Samosa Burrito (Ve) with Spaghetti or Rice Jacket Potato with various toppings CHILLED OPTION: Cheese Baguette (V)		WEDNESDAY Roast Chicken with Sage and Onion Stuffing and Gravy Roast Quorn Fillet with Sage and Onion Stuffing and Gravy (V) with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta Jacket Potato with various toppings CHILLED OPTION: Ham Sandwich		THURSDAY Pork Sausages with Gravy Cheese Pinwheel (V) with Creamed Potatoes or Pasta Cheesy Pasta (V) CHILLED OPTION: Tuna Roll		FRIDAY Fishcake Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V) with Oven Chips or Tricolour Pasta Jacket Potato with various toppings CHILLED OPTION: Egg Roll (V)			
		Served Week Commencing: 11th Sep, 2nd Oct, 30th Oct, 20th Nov, 11th Dec, 15th Jan, 5th Feb, 4th March, 25th March											
		MONDAY Mild Chicken Curry Macaroni Cheese (V) with Rice or Garlic Bread Jacket Potato with various toppings CHILLED OPTION: Tuna Roll		TUESDAY Veggie Sausages with Gravy (Ve) Sweet Chili Quorn (V) with Creamed Potatoes or Pasta Tomato Pasta with Cheese (V) CHILLED OPTION: Cream Cheese Sandwich (V)		WEDNESDAY Roast Pork with Sage and Onion Stuffing and Gravy Shepherdess Pie (Ve) with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta Jacket Potato with various toppings CHILLED OPTION: Cheese Baguette (V)		THURSDAY Beef Burger in a Bun Vegetarian Roll (Ve) with Potato Wedges or Rice Cheesy Pasta (V) CHILLED OPTION: Ham Sandwich		FRIDAY Battered Fish Fillet Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V) with Oven Chips or Tricolour Pasta Jacket Potato with various toppings CHILLED OPTION: Egg Roll (V)			
		Served Week Commencing: 18th Sep, 9th Oct, 6th Nov, 27th Nov, 18th Dec, 22nd Jan, 12th Feb, 11th March											
		MONDAY Chicken and Sweetcorn Meatballs with a Tomato Sauce Bean and Vegetable Grill (Ve) with Rice or Diced Potatoes Jacket Potato with various toppings CHILLED OPTION: Tuna Roll		TUESDAY Chicken Pie Mild Vegetable Curry (Ve) with Creamed Potatoes or Rice Tomato Pasta with Cheese (V) CHILLED OPTION: Cream Cheese Sandwich (V)		WEDNESDAY Roast Beef with Gravy Potato Topped Vegetable Pie (V) with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta Jacket Potato with various toppings CHILLED OPTION: Ham Sandwich		THURSDAY Quorn Hot Dog (V) Beaney Pasta Bake (Ve) with Potato Wedges or Garlic Bread Jacket Potato with various toppings CHILLED OPTION: Cheese Baguette (V)		FRIDAY Crispy Coated Salmon Fish Fillet Fingers Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V) with Oven Chips or Tricolour Pasta Cheesy Pasta (V) CHILLED OPTION: Egg Roll (V)			

Freshly baked bread, seasonal vegetables and a variety of salad are served daily • Gravy and Custard are always available separately when on the menu • All our milk is organic - fresh from the dairy (V) = Vegetarian (Ve) = Vegan



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