



Encouraging everyone's light to shine

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Friday 15th December 2023

Our Value this Half Term: Love Yourself

Dear Essendon Families,

An Amazing Nativity Production

This week we all watched a wonderful Nativity play presented by Homewood and Pantherswood. The retelling of the Christmas story and the singing of the songs were beautifully performed. We are so proud of all the children and thank you to the parents, relatives and friends who came to watch. We all left with a warm heart and big smiles.



Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

The whole school sat down together for Christmas lunch on Wednesday all wearing our Christmas jumpers. What a happy celebration!



All The Very Best To Mrs Pinfold

As we come to the end of the Autumn Term we wanted to share a staffing change that is coming up. Mrs Pinfold, PE Lead and Friday Class Teacher in Homewood, hasn't been able to join us in school in recent weeks, she has been poorly and needs more time to return to full health. For this reason, Mrs Pinfold has decided to retire from education and step back from teaching at the end of this term.

We will be very sad to see Mrs Pinfold leave Essendon as she has contributed so much as both a teacher and PE Lead. We want to thank Mrs Pinfold for all her support in school and for the huge amount of sporting opportunities that she has brought to our children over the years. We will miss Mrs Pinfold's energy and enthusiasm in school and we wish her all the very best in her next step and look forward to hearing all about her post-retirement life and new adventures.

Reading For Pleasure



Thank you Maisie for coming to share your new book with me. We talked about how funny it is and all the different characters. What book is everyone else reading at home at the moment?

Comics and Magazines

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.

Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 19th December, 2:15pm – Christmas Carol Service, all welcome at the Church.

Wednesday 20th December, 1:15pm – End of Term for all pupils.

Monday 8th January , 8:40am – Start of the Spring Term for all pupils.

Extra Newsletters

Please have a read of the two extra newsletters that have been sent to you with this newsletter. The Hertfordshire SEN Newsletter and the Hertfordshire Fire Safety Newsletter.

We're Looking For After School Club Help

Are you energetic, enthusiastic and interested in children learning through play? Well we need you at our After School Club as a helper. Call the Office for a chat to find out more.

And Finally Back To School!

We are all back to school on Monday 8th January at 8:40am so now is the chance to have a quick check-of your school uniform. Check shoes are black, socks are plain black, grey or white and PE joggers are plain black with no logos. Digital watches or analogue watches are welcome but we do not wear Fit Bits or Smart Watches in school. The correct school uniform helps our pupils feel part of Team Essendon and really simplifies life by taking away the need to think about what to wear. So, let's see everyone smart and proud to wear the Essendon C of E Primary School uniform.

Have a very happy weekend from Ms Canham

Your Weekend Times Table Challenge

1) 4 x 3 =	21) 1 x 4 =
2) 4 x 10 =	22) 4 x 6 =
3) 4 x 1 =	23) 4 x 4 =
4) 4 x 5 =	24) 10 x 4 =
5) 4 x 8 =	25) 4 x 3 =
6) 4 x 6 =	26) 8 x 4 =
7) 4 x 2 =	27) 4 x 7 =
8) 4 x 9 =	28) 4 x 5 =
9) 4 x 0 =	29) 9 x 4 =
10) 4 x 4 =	30) 2 x 4 =
11) 4 x 7 =	31) 4 x 8 =
12) 1 x 4 =	32) 6 x 4 =
13) 6 x 4 =	33) 4 x 10 =
14) 3 x 4 =	34) 4 x 1 =
15) 8 x 4 =	35) 7 x 4 =
16) 6 x 4 =	36) 4 x 9 =
17) 5 x 4 =	37) 3 x 4 =
18) 0 x 4 =	38) 5 x 4 =
19) 9 x 4 =	39) 4 x 0 =
20) 7 x 4 =	40) 4 x 4 =



Are you energetic and enthusiastic and interested in children's play and learning?

Then you are just who we are looking for at Essendon Primary School.

Lorna, our After School Manager, needs an After School Assistant to help with Craft Club, Cookery Club and Science Club.

We are looking for an Assistant on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 3:30pm to 5pm.

You may be a 6th former, at college, a parent, or someone who wants to help our children flourish in their extra-curricula activities.

If you are interested in the position please email or call Belinda Canham, Headteacher, for an informal chat about the job, days, pay and any other queries.

head@essendon.herts.sch.uk or call the Office on 01707 261209

To all in your school communities.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas

The light shines in the darkness, and
the darkness has not overcome it.

- John 1:5



WITH BEST WISHES FROM ALL IN THE ST ALBANS DIOCESAN SCHOOLS TEAM

David, Charlotte, Lizzie, Maggie, Vicki, Ruth, Ryan, Hannah, Belinda, Donna



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