

SCHOOL NEWS

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Anti-Bullying Week



We have spent lots of time this week focussing on the Anti-Bullying week theme of 'Choose Respect'. Examples of some of the great activities which have taken place can be found on the school website, Twitter and Class Story. One activity which really caught my eye was 6W's Anti-Bullying Week Challenge. The children were challenged to complete random acts of kindness - for example:

- On the playground say 'Hello' to somebody that you don't usually talk to*
- Encourage a friend... "You can do this!"*
- Make conversation with someone who looks lonely*
- Leave a 'Thank You' note for a parent, relative or teacher*
- Pay someone a compliment*

The children have really enjoyed ticking these off through the week - great job!!!



Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Children in Need collection. The children looked very bright and colourful in all their spots. It really is a great cause and every amount donated can really help to make a difference to the lives of many young people. The Etchells community raised £221 which we will be sending off to the Pudsey charity.



We are once again supporting the Mission Christmas appeal and have registered to be a drop off point for donations. We will let you know when we have the collection box and the dates you can drop off any unwrapped children's Christmas presents.

Letters coming home today:

Christmas Lunch will be held on Monday 10th December. A letter will be coming home for children who currently have sandwiches for lunch.

Please return by Wednesday.

Santa's Grotto at the Christmas Fair needs to be booked in advance.

Please return by Friday.





Remembrance Sunday

Many thanks to the group of Year 6 children, along with Miss Williams and Mrs Roberts, for attending the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial in Heald Green last weekend. Our Head Boy and Girl presented the Etchells' wreath and as it was the 100th anniversary, an additional touch of adding soldier silhouettes to the flower beds was added. Our Etchells pupils did us proud with their mature approach and behaviour.



Smart Watches

The Safeguarding division of the Local Authority have brought to our attention the dangers in pupils wearing smart watches to school. One such device is called the 'Bestie'. This can be used for parents to communicate with children, pinpoint their location, listen to surrounding conversations and capture images. These functions can be carried out silently and are adult controlled. For safeguarding reasons, these devices are strictly forbidden in school. We take our responsibility for protecting our children very seriously and do not wish their privacy and safety to be compromised. As these watches and other 'smart' devices are very expensive, we ask for them not to be in school anyway. Any child seen with a smart watch will be asked to remove it and it will be placed in the school office where parents can collect.

New Parents

We had a tremendous turn out for our prospective parents morning for those with children starting in September. The presentation and booklet given out at the meeting can be found on the school website in the Prospective Parents Area - there is a quick link on the homepage. If you know anyone who may have missed this morning please direct them to this information. We also have a photographic school tour on the website which gives an inside view of our classrooms and outdoor areas.

<http://www.etchells.stockport.sch.uk/page/prospective-parents/8010>



**PROTECT
YOUNG EYES**
defending kids from online danger

Ever wondered about the Apps your child is using? Even those we consider to be safe may have some elements that parents should be aware of. The 'Protect Young Eyes' website is extremely useful and gives a summary of what parents need to know for a wide range of popular Apps.

<https://protectyoungeyes.com/apps/>

Next Friday the PTA are inviting children to come to school with mad hair in exchange for a jar of wrapped sweets. The jar can be decorated to make it more inviting for our 'Hoop a Jar' stall at the Christmas Fair. All donations are voluntary.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the Etchells staff

