

Vale of Evesham School

Newsletter—Winter Edition 2023

Just a few words from us to wish you a very happy Christmas and tell you a little about this busy term. There have been many events this term including the first meeting of the School Council and Eco warriors. The council met in the conference room and quickly took up their new roles. The councillors want to raise money for a local charity and would like more Lunchtime Clubs.

The school council was very involved in the organisation of the T4U Shoebox appeal and due to their help, it went very well indeed. Resulting in seventeen boxes going on a lorry and then a ship to Eastern Europe from The Vale of Evesham School, this will make a wonderful difference to 17 children this year.

The school has had many exciting educational trips this term, and some of these are in Newsletter.

We hope you have a restful Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone in 2024

Chairpersons,

Raihan and Sarah.

Head Students

Announcing Head Students and Senior Student Roles for 2023.

Each year our sixth form students write a letter of interest for Head student and Senior Student Roles. Applicants for these positions have stated what strengths and skills they will offer and why they feel they should be considered.

We have received much interest and many sixth formers have offered to take responsibility for roles and duties that support their wider school community. These form our Senior Student Roles. I would like to thank all our sixth formers for their enthusiasm and willingness to support others across our school. This will form part of their community and Smart School council work and learning after half term. I am very much looking forward to seeing this enthusiasm in action this year.

It is my pleasure to announce the Head students for 2023-2024.

Head Students

**Tom
Holli**

Chestnut Class

In September we welcomed our new Reception children and their families to the school in Chestnut Class. The children have settled in really well and are enjoying school life. The patio had a big revamp over the summer holidays and they have all enjoyed accessing the patio and the new equipment on there. We also have a new canopy outside the classroom so we can still access outside in all weathers.



Wye Class

We had a fantastic start of the year. Everyone is settled in their new class. We gained another student after a couple of weeks and he has made our class complete.

This half term half of the group went swimming. The students had very enjoyable times in the pool and these occasions provided us with great opportunities to increase their independence in getting changed.

We started our community sessions on Thursday afternoons, exploring our local environment and doing some shopping for our lesson based around food on Friday afternoons.

Violinist Kenny

Kenny has been doing violin lessons for about a year with Helen from Severn Arts. He really enjoys the violin and has performed twice for our parents/carers. We are very proud of Kenny and his achievements.



Severn Arts Music at The Vale of Evesham School

On Tuesday lunch times Pupils are supported by Severn Arts to learn all about music and how to play different instruments. The students have recently been learning how to play the drums.



Herbert Museum and Art Gallery

On the 28th September 2023 Teme and Severn classes went to the Herbert Museum and Art Gallery in Coventry. We went around the art gallery and saw lots of art and sculptures. We saw Dippy the Dinosaur, the skeleton of a Diplodocus from millions of years ago. Ollie said "he was massive, as big as a blue whale". We then went into the museum and saw lots of objects from 1200AD to the present day. Logan said "we saw some cool stuff, chainmail, swords and an 80s computer". Ollie said "we saw a musket, football kit, a bunker, some military uniforms and some drums".

"It was a cool day, I would like to go again, I like the art".

- Ollie

"It was a good day" - Logan

"It was a great day, I would like to go again with my family". - Raihan



Isbourne Class

As well as our whole school #WakeUpWednesdays; in October, Isbourne have been thinking about how they interact with others online.

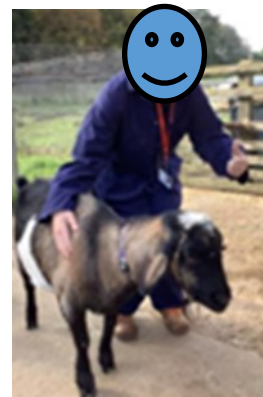
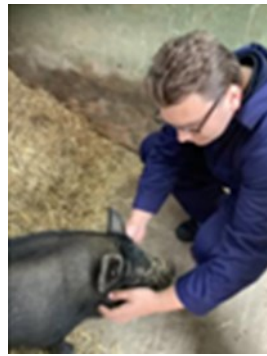
They shared the platforms they use, we discussed how to keep our online experiences fun and safe. Isbourne are excited to share what they have learned with their friends and family- after looking at these posters, did you learn anything new?



College

Sixth form at Pershore College
by Ricky

6th form students have started our college link at Pershore College. We enjoyed working with lots of different animals on the Animal Care Unit. We learnt how to care for donkeys, goats, lizards, snakes, chickens, birds and 3 pigs.



Harvest celebration

People around school took part in singing dancing and reading.

Everyone who took part did a great job.

The chairpersons did a good job escorting our visitor's to their seats.

Thank you to all the staff and Ms Barton for making it all happen.

Thank you to Caring Hands for taking our donations to the people who need them.

Happy
Harvest!

By
Cain



TEAMS4U – SHOE BOX APPEAL



As a whole school we are filling shoe boxes provided by Teams 4U to send around the world.

Teams 4U is a local charity – located on Davies Road. The boxes this year are being sent over to Ukraine, Romania,

Bosnia, Moldova and Georgia they will be distributed to vulnerable children or families via schools, hospitals and orphanages.

The age groups the boxes are for

- 3 to 5 years old.
- 6 to 11 years old.
- 16+ years.

These boxes provide joy to those who receive them, in the boxes we have put in:

- Toothbrush and toothpaste.
- Hairbrush/comb.
- Facecloth and soap.
- Stationery/pens/pencils/paper.
- Gloves, hats, scarves. something to keep them warm this winter.
- Puzzles, soft toys, small cars, playing cards.

These boxes may seem small but to the child or young person receiving them, they are very much enjoyed and everything inside is what they need.

We are as a school very proud of everyone who has been involved with filling the boxes and doing a very selfless act by sending these.



Be You

On Friday 17th November, we were lucky to have a visit from Steve from 'Be You'.



The children were encouraged to join together in some team building exercises. These included helping each other cross lava, they had to move mats around so they or their friends didn't fall in by making sure they got safely onto each of the mats, some children even had to trust their friends whilst wearing blindfolds!

Next they had to stand in a circle holding hands with a loop of rope looped around one of their arms. They then had to get the rope to move all around the circle, helping each other to get their heads, arms and legs through the loop, so it could pass to the next person in the circle .

Finally using their concentration skills they were put into two teams and were challenged to build the longest domino line, without knocking them over.

For each challenge they had to work together as well as having to beat the other team which resulted in great team work experience.



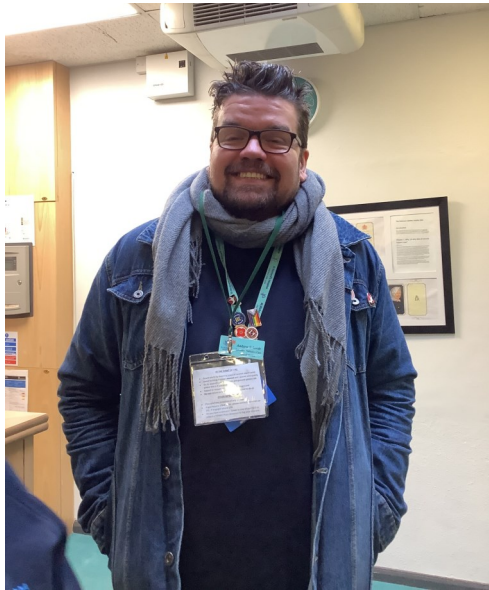
Wednesday After School Music Club



Every Wednesday a group of young people attend Music Club. At this club the young people sing, dance, listen to different kinds of music and play instruments.

Jack is playing his electric guitar to the club. Everybody has an enjoyable time .

Andy Schwab from St Richards Hospice



We are so very lucky to have the input of Andy Schwab from St Richards hospice who helps support pupils and families when there has been a bereavement. We heard some news today and would just like to say.....

Sending huge congratulations to Andy Schwab on scooping a prestigious prize this week!

Andy, Specialist Palliative Care Social Worker, attended the Royal Society of Medicine's Mental Health and Palliative Care Conference in London where he delivered a presentation on 'Developing emotional support pre and post bereavement for neuro divergent people in a hospice setting'. Andy was awarded first place for his moderated oral presentation! .

Other people shortlisted were from Cambridge University, Liaquat National Hospital, the founder of My Wishes, and LOROS Hospice.

Andy says: "I am honestly blown away by the messages of congratulations and support from my colleagues at St Richard's. It's honestly a career highlight, I'm just letting it sink in."

Autumn/Winter Term in Blossom

It has been a busy term in Blossom House

We started the term welcoming new staff and boarders and a visit from Ofsted. Ofsted has said that we are “Good” in all areas.

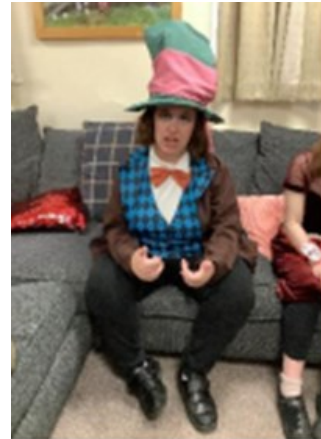
There have been a lot of activities taking place both in school and in the community. All to help promote Independence, communication and fun!



We have met up with Russell House, attended the Freedom Disco and spent time in the forest, participated in sensory play.

Autumn/Winter Term in Blossom House

Of course we enjoyed attending the Madhatter's tea-party with you all.



With Christmas approaching at an alarming rate, the last few weeks of term are being filled with festive activities such as Santa Safari day trip, a pottery class and of course the Family Christmas Quiz!

We are looking forward to the New Year and new term and will be finally opening our third suite – Bluebell.

We would like to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Sharan & Team

A Massive Thank You



We would like to say a massive thank you to the team at Broadway Nurseries for kindly donating our reception Christmas tree.



The residential pupils really enjoyed choosing it.

Term Dates



**VALE OF EVESHAM
SCHOOL**
Learning For Life

Term Dates

Academic Year 2023 - 2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023

TERM STARTS	Wednesday 6 th September 2023	PD Days – Monday 4th September & Tuesday 5th September 2023
TERM ENDS	Friday 27 th October 2023	
HALF TERM WEEK	Monday 30 th October – Friday 3 rd November 2023	
TERM STARTS	Monday 6 th November 2023	
TERM ENDS	Thursday 21 st December 2023	

SPRING TERM 2024

TERM STARTS	Tuesday 9 th January 2024	PD Day – Monday 8th January 2024
TERM ENDS	Friday 9 th February 2024	
HALF TERM WEEK	Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th February 2024	
TERM STARTS	Monday 19 th February 2024	
TERM ENDS	Friday 22 nd March 2024	

SUMMER TERM 2024

TERM STARTS	Monday 8 th April 2024	May Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May 2024
TERM ENDS	Friday 24 th May 2024	
HALF TERM WEEK	Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May 2024	
TERM STARTS	Monday 3 rd June 2024	
TERM ENDS	Friday 19 th July 2024	PD Day – Monday 22nd July 2024

The early publication of these term dates enables holidays to be booked during the school closure periods in line with school attendance requirements.
All dates may be subject to change.

Please note PD Days are provisional at this stage.