



End of Year Round-Up



2016-2017

School Life

Life at Eardisley School this year has been its usual mixture of hard work and fun.

CLUBS

This year we have had a wide variety of clubs for the children to attend.

At lunchtimes we have:

- Knitting Club run by Mrs. Ann Evans
- Choir Club run by Mrs Small
- Eco Club run by Miss Evans
- The School Council also meet at lunchtimes
- Running Club led by Mrs. Mealand

After School Clubs have included:

- Football and Rounders Clubs run by Mr. Salter
- Cricket Club run by Miss Robertson
- Dance Clubs run by Aspire Dance Studios
- Netball Club run by Miss Robertson
- Cookery Club run by Mrs. Toni Adams
- Computer Club run by Mrs. Brown – one of our governors.
- Gardening Club run by Mrs. Whittall
- Nature Club run by Mrs. Lewis
- Art Club run by Mrs. Small

We are very grateful to all our volunteers who help out with clubs. Thank you.

Our School Council
continues to meet regularly. Children representing all the classes take part and discuss all sorts of school matters.

This year's Council members were Charlie J, Naomi, Megija, Jasmine and Harriet.

School Houses

When the children start at Eardisley School, they are put into 'houses' where they remain during their time with us.

This is a tradition at Eardisley and the house names are:

Gwynne (green) Garrick (blue)
Elgar (yellow) Kilvert (red)

Children are able to earn House Points for their houses by good behaviour, excellent achievement etc.

House Captains this year were:

Reuben (Elgar) Damian (Kilvert)
Paige (Gwynne) Stan (Garrick)





Sports and Games ...

Sports Captains
this year have been
Oli, Carys, Callin
and Arran

With the support of the school budget and the Government's Sports Funding, all the children have enjoyed a variety of different sporting activities delivered by professional coaches who work alongside our own staff.

- Oak, Beech and Willow Classes have all had a term each swimming at Presteigne Pool. Thank you to the parents who have come along and helped this year.
- Anna Robinson has coached children across the school in cricket and multiskills, ball skills and netball.
- Aspire Dance Studies taught dance skills to both Key Stage 1 and 2 children – including Street Dance this year.
- Luctonians came in and took the children for some rugby coaching in Oak and Beech classes – despite the rain and mud!
- All classes have enjoyed tennis coaching at Eardisley Tennis Club – many thanks to the club for this free tuition and also for helping to walk the children back and forwards to the courts.

Away from school, lots of sporting events have been attended. The children have represented the school with their usual good sportsmanship, behaviour and manners.

The Government's Sports Funding has enabled us to take part in far more offsite sports events as we use some of the money to pay for transport, which for us as a rural school, is always a major consideration.



Children have taken part in:

- Cross Country at Lucton
- Brook & Border Netball & Football at New Radnor
- Netball & Football against Almeley School
- Netball & Football Tournament at Credenhill
- Kwick Cricket Festivals during June (Year 5/6 reached the Finals)
- The Mitchell Hamer Netball/Football Tournament
- Rounders & Mini Tennis at LHS
- Indoor Athletics at LHS
- Tag Rugby at LHS
- Quicksticks Hockey
- Multiskills & Orienteering at LHS
- Key Stage 1 Gymnastics at LHS
- Rounders Final at the Summer School Games
- Tennis Tournament at LHS.

Charlie in Oak Class represented the school at the Hereford Athletics Meeting and won a gold medal!

Our Sports Teams had some smart new kit very kindly donated by a parent this year – we are very grateful and the teams look very smart.

Mrs. Mealand has continued to run the Running Club during the Autumn and Spring terms.

Music ...

Beech Class have enjoyed Wider Opportunities Music teaching once again with Sue Gibson – this year they have had an opportunity to learn to play the tin whistle, ukulele and Samba drums (luckily in the summer term so they were able to play outside on the far side of the field!). Parents have been invited in to attend various concerts and heard for themselves the progress the children have made.

Mrs. Leighton has come into school to teach the piano.

Mr. Tony Urbainczyk has again been teaching Year 2 the violin and they have made amazing progress.

Mr. Salter has been taking children for guitar lessons and entertains both staff and pupils with his playing in between lessons.

Supply Teachers

As you will understand, our teaching staff sometime need to be out of class for training courses or sickness absence.

We are very lucky here to have a small team of supply teachers who come in and cover absences. They are well known to the children and staff and step in with a minimum of fuss, often at short notice.

Many thanks to Sue Brown and Mike Salter – we do appreciate your support and interest in our school.

Visitors to our school...

- Rev Marcus Small comes in and takes assembly once a week.
- Roger Morgan OBE made several visits to speak to Oak Class to discuss topical issues and then report back to Parliament on their responses under the Pupils2 Parliament project. We are very proud of all the children in Oak Class for their mature and well thought-out contributions and their engagement in these discussions.
- Eardisley Mother and Toddler Group take over the school hall (and various other places as well!) on a Tuesday morning
- Mr. McAlpine brought fruit and vegetables and spoke to the Infants about where our food comes from.
- Willow Class were lucky to have Inola, a French student to help them for a week or so.
- Staff from Worcester University visited to discuss the Children's University and the Values Conference.
- The school photographers visited school taking individual and whole school photos. (School earned £300 this year in commission).
- Mary Seldon from the West Midlands Air Ambulance attended one of our assemblies. (The Air Ambulance was our chosen charity this year).
- Community Support Officer Dick Allford talked to the children about Stranger Danger and Road and Water Safety and also Cyber Safety to Year 6 – and monitored parking.
- Amilia Burrage taught our Year 6 children the art of public speaking
- Kate Warner from the NSPCC delivered a workshop to our old children



- Almeley School joined us for some workshops run by The Courtyard Theatre.
- The School Nursing Service came and vaccinated our Year 1/2/3 children against 'flu (no needles though!).
- Stuart Brain gave the school a 'Sound Assembly' complete with hosepipes and watering cans!
- The School Library Service brought the Library Van to school
- We welcomed Eardisley Rainbows group after school on Thursdays
- Father Christmas visited the Christmas Bazaar
- We had an Assembly delivered by Susan Brace of Herefordshire Young Carers.
- Two members of the Herefordshire Council Bikeability team (and their bikes!) came in and delivered safe cycling training to Year 6.
- About Face Theatre joined Years 5/6 for a workshop.
- Mark Sanderson, Herefordshire Council ICT Consultant came in and spent the day 'coding' – all the children had a go at flying drones around the hall.
- Many of our School Governors visit and spend time in the school. They monitor various areas of the curriculum, attendance and behaviour, listen to readers and help in lots of ways.

A very big thank you to all our voluntary helpers both in class, listening to readers, helping with swimming and with lunches and clubs and lots of other ways in which the school is supported.

Helpers are always needed – please contact school if you wish to help.

Out and about ...

Trips this year have included:

Rowan Class had their annual Christmas trip out to Madley Environmental Centre and met some elves and a very important person dressed in red with a white beard.

Year 6 took part in Women's World Day of Prayer at the Methodist Chapel.



Rowan and Willow Classes went to Bristol Aquarium to support their 'Under the Sea' learning – they saw seahorses, sharks and some of them fed the fish!

Beech and Oak Classes attended Hay Festival.

Willow Class visited Eardisley Fire Station.

Beech Class took part in Sing Spring – a combined singing event held at Weobley High School.

Some children attended a Maths Outdoor Learning event at Madley.

Year 6 visited Red Ridge for their annual residential trip accompanied by Mrs. Mealand and Mr. Salter

Year 5 went to Worcester University and attended a Values Conference.

A group of children attended the Spring Greens event at Noke Farm and had a marvellous day learning outside in the woods.

Year 6 attended a safety day in Leominster – Crucial Crew – accompanied by Mr. Salter and Mr. Whittall.

Oak and Beech Classes visited The Big Pit to learn about coal mining.

The whole school went up to the Village Hall to see "The Jungle Book" – refreshments provided by FOES – thank you.

Beech Class dressed up in their finest clothes and attended the premiere of their film at the Odeon Cinema. How posh did they look!



Special Times ...

Here are just some of them.

A lovely dry and warm Sports Day and Fete. The House Cup was won by Gwynne this year. The Fete raised over £500 – many thanks to FOES and all who helped and supported.

The Christmas Services in the church with both the Juniors and Infants performing in their own Nativity productions.

Graduation Ceremony of our Children's University pupils.

The various reincarnations of the role-play area in Rowan Class – rocket, submarine, vets' surgery and a boat. What will 2017/18 bring?

The annual Conker Competition! Including hot chocolate and hot dogs. Gracie was our champion this year.

The youngest children had a visit from a very big tractor.

Rowan and Willow Class end of year production in the school hall – amazing singing, dancing and smiling faces!

And of course, the Key Stage 2 production of "Hoodwinked" in the Village Hall. As always, the older children pulled out all the stops and gave us a performance to remember.



School Improvements

Despite decreasing budgets, we do our best to keep the fabric of the school together and suitable for purpose.

Over the past 2 years we have had the windows replaced in Rowan, Willow and Beech Classes.

The playground fence has been replaced (and still the footballs are kicked over it and end down by the Fire Station!)

The exterior woodwork around the school has been repaired and repainted – including new window casements and new doors where required.

Rowan and Beech Classes have had new floor rugs.

This Summer, the hall is going to be refurbished and plastered. This should be a great improvement and we are very grateful to FOES who are putting £2000 towards this work.

Arts and Crafts

All the children have enjoyed the arts this year. Mrs. Small has run art club and some lovely work has been produced.

Cooking has taken place in the kitchen with a variety of food being produced – the latest being Mrs. Lewis working with Oak Class to make some fabulous Pavlovas.

Willow Class made some very ingenious bird-scarers. Rowan children made their own storybooks, and of course Beech Class produced their own film.



We are currently working towards gaining the Artmark award for the school and looking forward to have a professional artist join us for a day next year to work with all the classes.

If you come into school, please do take time to see the wonderful work on the display boards that the children have produced.

Values ...

Our Christian values this year have been: Unity, Respect, Freedom, Humility, Justice, Care, Understanding, Grace, Responsibility, Belief and happiness.

We have also had a monthly British Value to discuss and learn about. We hope these are values which the children will remember and use in their lives every day.

Behind the Scenes

Our school couldn't run without all the people who are rarely seen by parents but are vital to the school:

Our cleaning and caretaking staff, Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Plumstead who work so hard all year round to keep the school looking spruce.

Our handyman, Mr. Whittall, who is constantly repairing items around the school and carries out routine checks to keep us all safe.

Our Caterer, JP Catering and her staff who serve at lunchtimes.

Our own lunch staff and our Teaching Assistants who cover for them when they are not in school.

Countrywide our Grounds Maintenance providers who mow the grass, cut the hedges and paint the lines.

Our wonderful school bus drivers, Sheila. Claire, and recently Alex who become friends to their passengers and support us in so many ways.

Money Matters

Herefordshire is still one of the least well-funded counties in terms of funding for schools and small rural schools such as ours suffer particularly badly. The money raised by FOES is used to offer our pupils the best experiences we can - on top of what is paid for by the school budget.

FOES events this year have included Rags2Riches collections, Kington Charity Shop, Pumpkin Competition, Christmas & Easter Bazaars, Easter Egg Hunt, colouring competitions, Summer Fete and lots more. They have also supported the school at various events with refreshments and assistance. They also run a very good second-hand uniform shop. Last year they produced a calendar and T towel to raise funds.

Please continue to support us next year – everyone is welcome to attend FOES meetings and all help and ideas are appreciated.

FOES meet regularly, usually at school, and the meetings are attended by Mrs. Knight or a member of school staff.

This year FOES have supported us by raising money to pay for the children to take part in Forest School Sessions

In addition, they have raised money to help us by:

- Purchasing book bags for all our new children
- Purchasing sun hats, clipboards, dictionaries and mobile screens
- Subsidising school trips
- Subsidising swimming transport

From time to time FOES money also helps us to enable children to go on trips who can't afford to pay themselves.

How much money has Eardisley School raised for charity in the last year?

**FUNDRAISING FOR AIR AMBULANCE
(SCHOOL CHARITY FOR 2016/17) (inc
collections from church services)**

£397

**not including Leavers' Service or show
refreshments**

BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL	£73
BBC CHILDREN IN NEED	£117
RED NOSE DAY	£75
MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING	£221

A big thank you to everyone for your support.

Grants received this year

£100 from Mountain Lions – Simon won this by making the best 'guy' at Clyro Bonfire Display. We used this to purchase some new play equipment for lunchtimes.

Ernest Cook Trust – a grant towards our Maths in a Suitcase Day and Family Maths Resources.

We are immensely grateful to local trusts and charities who are able to fund specific projects and also to the people who put the bids together to secure these grants.

Governors ...

Our Governing Body works very hard to support our school. They meet at least every half term and many governors come into school to spend time with us and learn more about how the school runs.

Our current governors are as follows:

LA Appointee	Mr. Andrew Layton
Foundation Governor	Mrs. Susan Brown
Foundation Governor	Rev Marcus Small
Co-Opted Governor	Mr. P. Whittall
Co-Opted Governor	Mrs. Caroline Morris
Parent Governors	Mr. Craig Scorer
	Mrs. Suzanne Hemming
	Mr. Ozan Pakyuz
	Mr. Stephen Edwards
Staff Governor	Mrs. Bridget Knight
Staff Governor	Mrs. Susan Mealand
Clerk to the Governors	Mrs. Mel Tree

From time to time a vacancy arises in the Governing Body. If you feel you would like to become a school governor, please look out for these vacancies. Terms of office last for 4 years and meetings are at least one each half term.

Thank you to all our governors who support the school and give their time for the good of our pupils.

Goodbyes ...

As we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils, we thank them and their families for all the support they have given to school over the last seven years.

During this last year our Year 6 have been superb buddies of the children in Rowan Class, excellent Sports Captains, and inspiring House Captains. They have taken their responsibilities very seriously and represented our school on many occasions. We are very proud of them all.

We also say goodbye to Mrs. Kelly Prior who has been supporting some pupils over the past few years and thank her for her work in the school.

Thank you everyone for your support and loyalty to Eardisley School and we wish all our leavers the very best for the next steps in their lives.

