



Welcome to the latest edition of our school newsletter

As this very short term draws to a close I would like to thank all of our families for the support you give us and our children. Once again, our children have worked hard both in school and at home. Time spent learning spellings, times tables and reading are really important so thank you for the time you give supporting them with their homework. We hope that you and your children have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing you all at 8.50am on Monday 20 February.

Kate Cleaver

Principal

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PTA MEETING

3.40pm

23 February 2017

**DRESS UP FOR
WORLD BOOK DAY**

All Classes

2 March 2017

RED NOSE DAY

24 March 2017

TERM DATES

FIRST DAY: 20 Feb

LAST DAY: 31 Mar

Pupil of the Week

Each week the class teachers will nominate a:

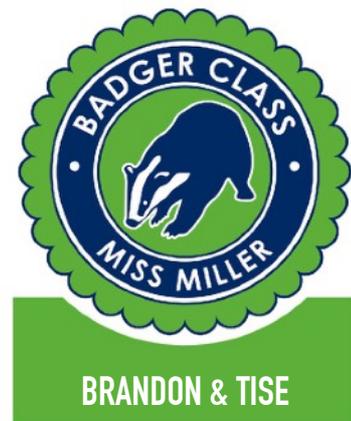
- Super Squirrel
- Happy Hedgehog
- Brilliant Badger
- Outstanding Owl

The children are chosen for consistently demonstrating the Ecton values of Resilience, Kindness, Co-operation and Engagement. They are recognised for their excellent attitude in all areas of school life. As a reward, they have lunch with Mrs Cleaver. We have our own special table and receive waitress service.

We will let you know which children have been truly amazing in our fortnightly news.



"I look forward to my lunches very much each week - it is a lovely opportunity to chat to the children more informally and hear what they have to say." *Kate Cleaver*



PTA - Call for Volunteers

Can you help?

The PTA (Parent Teachers Association) of Ecton Village Primary Academy is seeking new committee members to take over the running of the PTA.

The PTA is a volunteer body which holds fundraising events throughout the year with the aim of providing facilities or equipment which support the Academy and children's education.

All of the committee positions will be available: Chair, Vice-chair (optional), Secretary and Treasurer.

If you are interested, please contact Zoe Dix, the current Chair, for more information at ectonvillagepta1@gmail.com or ask at the school office.

A meeting will be held on **Thursday 23 February at 3.40pm** at the school to elect the new committee members. If you would like to be involved with the PTA in any capacity, please come along in order to vote – you don't need to be on the committee to be involved.



MyMaths is an interactive online teaching and homework service written by experienced teachers for all the UK National Curricula, developed for teaching, practising and assessing children's maths fluency across the school.

A letter has been sent home with children from Hedgehogs, Badgers and Owls this week explaining how your child can access their MyMaths homework with their own unique log in details.

If you would rather your child access MyMaths on a tablet or phone you can download a free app called Puffin Academy and then search for MyMaths.

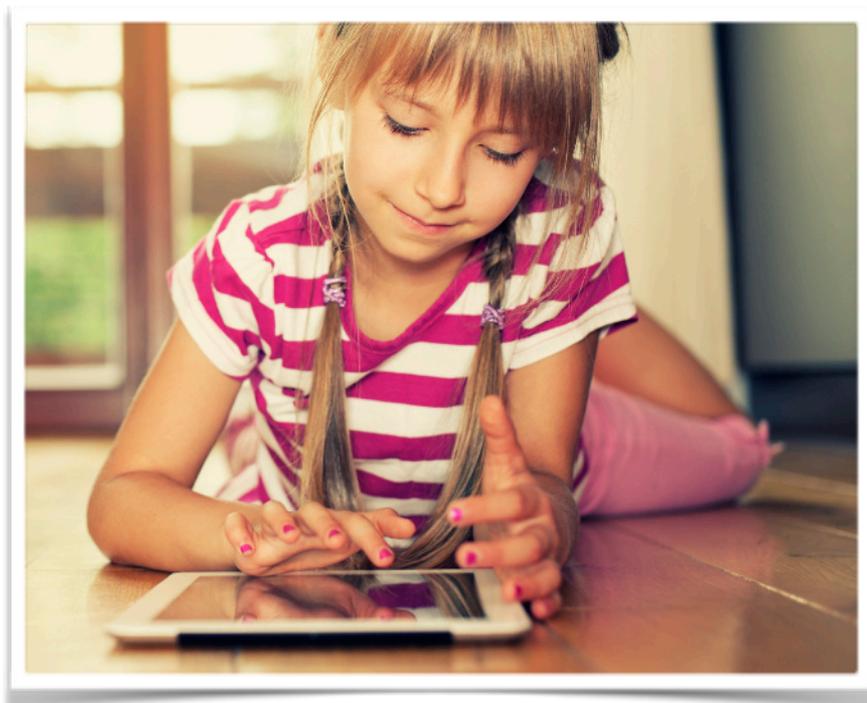
If you require any assistance then please speak to your child's class teacher.

Hedgehog Super Spellers

Each term a child from Year 1 and Year 2 are given the Super Spellers award, this term the awards went to...

Brooke and Shamihari





Internet safety checklist for young children

Agree boundaries

Be clear what your child can and can't do online – where they can use the internet, how much time they can spend online, the sites they can visit and the type of information they can share. Agree with your child when they can have a mobile phone or tablet.

Explore together

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to ask them to tell you about what they do and what sites they like to visit. If they're happy to, ask them to show you. Talk to them about being a good friend online.

Put yourself in control

Install parental controls on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. Set up a user account for your child on the main device they use and make sure other accounts in the household are password-protected so that younger children can't access them by accident.

Use airplane mode

Use airplane mode on your devices when your child is using them so they can't make any unapproved purchases or interact with anyone online without your knowledge.

Stay involved

Encourage them to use their tech devices in a communal area like the lounge or kitchen so you can keep an eye on how they're using the internet and also share in their enjoyment.

Talk to siblings

It's also a good idea to talk to any older children about what they're doing online and what they show to younger children. Encourage them to be responsible and help keep their younger siblings safe.

Search safely

Use safe search engines such as Swiggle or Kids-search. You can save time by adding these to your 'Favourites'. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines, as well as YouTube.

Check if it's suitable

The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. For example, the minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram. Although sites aimed at under-10s like Moshi Monsters and Club Penguin also have social networking elements.

Online Safety Alert



It has been reported to us by colleagues in a neighbouring school about inappropriate behaviour online towards students using the App **Musical.ly**. The App is designed to allow the user to create music videos.

Female students have been 'followed' online by an individual who initially follows them, starts "liking" what they post and then initiates conversation. Very quickly the conversation progresses from 'Hi, you're cute' to requesting that the conversation moves privately to the **Oovoo** App. This site is widely used by paedophiles. Conversations on Musical.ly have rapidly moved to requests for live chat or uploads of highly inappropriate images of the student.

Please take time to talk to your child about this site, reiterate the online safety message and that the behaviour mentioned in this letter is clearly grooming. Statistics show that online grooming takes only 20 minutes before a young person is taken in by the perpetrator.

If your child has been contacted in this manner, we advise that you keep any evidence on the phone and contact the Police on 101. Your child should not have any further contact with anyone behaving in this manner.

In the meantime, if you have any concerns please contact your child's class teacher.

Futsal

We have had our best performance so far in the Futsal competition over the last 2 weeks, with Charlie scoring our first goal, Year 5 and 6 winning our first match and Phadell scoring a hat trick!

We are third in the tournament so far and are improving all the time. Keep up the good work Ecton!





Twitter

@ectonacademy

We have set up a School Twitter account that you can now follow.

All essential information will obviously be communicated by other channels (ParentMail / text / letter home) but on Twitter we will post interesting things happening in school on a regular basis. Our Twitter name is @ectonacademy. Please do follow us.

Don't worry if you've not used Twitter before. It is relatively easy to get the hang of. Here are some basic steps to get you underway:

Setting up a Twitter account

Go to the [Twitter](#) website and get started by clicking Sign up. Enter your name, email, and a password (at least 6 characters) and then click Sign Up again. You will then be asked to register the account against a telephone number. This helps to keep your account secure, connects you to friends and makes login easier but you can skip this step if you wish.

You will now be taken to a second screen where you can select a username. This is the name by which you will be known on Twitter. Your real name is best—if it's available. If not, you can try using a middle initial or adding a number. Twitter names always start with a '@' symbol, eg: @SchoolParent

Now click on the Create my account button. That's it. You are now officially a member of the Twitter community. **Congratulations!**

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