

**1At Enfield Heights Academy, we are KIND, RESPECTFUL, RESILIENT and BRAVE.**  
**We are the Force for Positive Change.**

26th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Our Flight Path and Bird Watch this weekend**

Will you get involved this weekend with the Big Garden Birdwatch?



At EHA, we are keen to ensure through our special school playground Flight Path (See photo) set up last year with John Gilbert, our Newspaper Club educator and teacher) together with other aspects of our curriculum, that our children learn how to appreciate nature and the wonderful world around them.

We want them to be the force for positive change and learn to be nurturing, kind and responsible citizens. We are therefore pleased to highlight the great work that the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) with its fantastic annual *Big Garden Birdwatch*.

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey which starts today and runs until Sunday 28th January.

*"Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring."*

It would be lovely for you all to take part with your children. It is easy and fun. Gardens, parks, Epping Forest, by the canal...just **choose a location, choose an hour between today and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January, and record all the birds you see.**

You can find more information [here](#). Enter your results and be part of this great event.  
**Happy bird watching, have fun!**



**Online Safety coffee morning - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February (9-10am; school hall)**

For Safer Internet Day and Online Safety Week, we invited ECP, a specialist training company, to deliver an informative coffee morning for parents and carers, exploring apps, gaming trends, cyberbullying, uncovering the reality of social media's impact on mental health, the risks of sharenting, and grooming. They will also touch on the Online Safety Act 2023 and share free support resources. **THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT SESSION; please ATTEND.**

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February, ECP will also deliver online safety workshops to all classes (Reception to Year 6) and a twilight training session for all staff.

**Parental Participation - get involved!**

*“Parental engagement is a powerful lever for raising achievement in schools. When parents and teachers work together to improve learning, the gains in achievement are significant.”*

(Do Parents Know they Matter (Harris & Goodall/University of Warwick 2007))

From behaviour and attendance to learning outcomes, research shows the real benefits of parents and carers engaged in their children's learning. We believe that the more informed parents and carers are about the curriculum and the ways we teach at EHA, the better prepared you are to support your child at home. This directly links to how well your child does at school and how confident they feel about their learning.

To support you as parents and carers, we have prepared a programme of coffee mornings, workshops and information meetings (Phonics, Tapestry, Maths and Reading, Healthy lifestyles, Attendance and behaviour, SEND, etc) and we are committed to continue with more.

However, **we DO ASK for your PARTICIPATION and ATTENDANCE** at the sessions. I know that the top barrier to parents getting more involved in school life remains time and I understand that not all the sessions will be fully attended. But it was very sad to learn that not a single parent/carer turned up to Maths Workshop for Year 5 and 6 last Tuesday morning. Mrs Ubor, our Maths Lead and Mrs Tilley, our Maths Consultant prepared an excellent crash course of everything you need to know to help your child be a successful mathematician. Please check our school website if you would like to access PowerPoint from the presentation.

We will continue sending reminder texts via Arbor to alert parents and carers to coffee morning and events we are running as well as announcing them via news round letters in good time for you to save dates in your diary.

**Reading Coffee Mornings with Ms Michael, our English Lead**

**Reading Information Session for Year 2 and 3 parents/carers -Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 9-10am in the hall**

**Reading Information Session for Year 4, 5 and 6 parents/carers -Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 9-10am in the hall**

Both reading meetings will be the similar but tailored slightly for the different ages.

- *Sharing information about how we teach reading at Enfield Heights Academy for children in Years 2-6.*
- *Sharing the structure of guided reading and whole class reading sessions and the key reading skills that we focus on within these lessons.*
- *The role of what are known as NFER assessments and how we use this information to best support your child's reading progress.*

- How we allocate the reading books that children bring home to read.
- Sharing information about how you can best support your child at home with their reading.
- Promoting reading for pleasure in school and how we celebrate children's reading progress.
- Supporting all children with their reading with targeted reading interventions.

We hope to see many of you there.

### Children's Mental Health week

Children's Mental Health week is the 5<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> February this year. The theme is 'My Voice Matters'. At school we will be focussing on how to clearly communicate how we are feeling and why it is so important to share our thoughts and feelings. We will be holding an '**Express Yourself Day**' on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February where the children and adults can come in to school dressed in clothes that represent how they feel.

### Dates for your diary (new dates added)

<b>Year 2 &amp; 3 Reading Workshop</b>	Tuesday 30th January	Hall at 9:00-10:00am for Year 2 and 3 parents/carers
<b>Year 4, 5 &amp; 6 Reading Workshop</b>	Thursday 1st February	Hall at 9:00-10:00am for Year 4, 5 and 6 parents/carers
<b>Online Safety workshop for parents and carers</b>	Monday 5th February	Hall at 9.00-10.00am run by a ECP consultant <a href="https://www.ecplimited.com/index.html">https://www.ecplimited.com/index.html</a>
<b>Year 4 Class Assembly for Year 4 parents and carers</b>	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Hall at 9.00-9.45am
<b>'Express Yourself ' To mark Children's Mental Health week (5<sup>th</sup> -11th February)</b>	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Non-Uniform day – children and staff can wear clothes that represent how they feel.
<b>World Book Day</b>	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March am	<i>Dress up half-day day</i>
<b>Parents Consultation</b>	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March pm (1.30-6pm)	Letter to come
<b>MTC Information coffee morning For Year 3 and 4</b>	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Multiplication Tables Check 9-10am ; hall
<b>Comic Relief</b>	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	<i>Non-uniform day</i>
<b>Daffodil Breakfast (Year 1+2)</b>	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Hall 9.15-10.15am -Parents/Cares Welcomed

With my very best wishes,

*Justina Paine*

Headteacher