

2019 / 2020

# REVIEW

MAGAZINE

Woodland  
Hideaway  
Unveiled

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Polar  
Expedition

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Prehistoric  
Times

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Expanding  
Horizons



# Welcome

## Exceptional Achievement Celebrated



This year has turned out to be a rather memorable one but not for the right reasons. You could call it the Year of the Pandemic or even the beginning of a new era. Our world has been changed as a result of a microscopic virus that has wreaked havoc across the globe. Schools were shut as the Government implemented a lockdown and children and their families were quarantined in their homes. Eversfield became a virtual online learning school, thanks to the rapid upskilling of our teachers and pupils, and parents got unprecedented access to their child's work.



The interaction between parents and children was a positive gain out of the restrictions but the pupils missed so much of their usual co-curricular activities, events and social interaction. Despite our programme being severely restricted, we did manage to give every child the opportunity to return to school before the summer holidays. Thanks to the bravery and dedication of all the staff who were prepared to work unprotected and spend so much preparation time to ensure the school was as safe as possible, many pupils returned full-time from 1st June.

There are reflections in this magazine of the limited activities that were possible this year but also of the vast and varied opportunities still made available and the successes and achievements made by all our pupils.

**Robert A Yates**  
Headmaster

Staff and pupils were celebrating as this year's results underline the School's pedigree for stretching and supporting children to hit the top grades, with 98% of pupils being offered places at the region's leading independent and grammar schools.

There were some outstanding individual star performances. Between them the 31 pupils in Form 6 secured 76 offers of which 9 were scholarship offers: 3 academic, 1 gymnastics, 1 sports, 2 drama and 2 art scholarships.

"I'm proud of what everyone has achieved. What is particularly impressive is the wide range of scholarship awards, demonstrating that we truly provide a breadth of quality of teaching across our curriculum and co-curricular activities. The children deserve all the enjoyment of celebrating their hard work and achievements."

Mr Robert Yates, Headmaster

### II+ EXAMINATION RESULTS

#### ARNOLD LODGE SCHOOL

Oliver Ainsworth  
Saif Islam

#### BABLAKE SCHOOL

Oliver Brace  
Zayan Chaudhry  
Henry Dickson  
Rupert Dowler  
Joseph Dunne  
Malakai Eccleston  
Saif Islam  
Caiden Rees  
Seth Roberts  
Daniel Roche (art scholarship)

#### BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

Zayan Chaudhry  
Rosalia Doyle  
Daniel Roche

#### EDGBASTON HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Amielia Welton

#### KING EDWARD VI HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Neev Hothi  
Emilia Partington

#### KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL

Sergio Bhogal  
Seve Bhogal  
Malakai Eccleston  
Darshan Mistry  
Mikyle Mirza  
George Nichols  
Amrit Singh

#### KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL

Darshan Mistry

#### KING'S HIGH SCHOOL

Lucy Denton (gymnastics scholarship)  
Rosalia Doyle  
Neev Hothi  
Chloe James  
Hermione Nash (drama scholarship)  
Emilia Partington (academic scholarship)  
Avani Sura (art scholarship)  
Olivia Terry  
Amielia Welton  
Maia Wilson

#### KINGSLEY SCHOOL

Hermione Nash (performing arts scholarship)  
Olivia Terry (academic scholarship)

#### PRINCETHORPE COLLEGE

Oliver Ainsworth  
Zayan Chaudhry  
Henry Dickson

#### PRIORY SCHOOL

Saif Islam  
Joshua Oguego

#### SOLIHULL SCHOOL

Sergio Bhogal  
Seve Bhogal  
Oliver Brace  
Neev Hothi  
Chloe James  
Darshan Mistry  
George Nichols  
Gurnek Rayat  
Caiden Rees (sports scholarship)  
Seth Roberts  
Avani Sura  
Raahil Walji  
Amielia Welton

#### ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL

Saif Islam

#### STRATFORD GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Neev Hothi  
Emilia Partington  
Avani Sura  
Amielia Welton

#### WARWICK SCHOOL

Oliver Ainsworth  
Sergio Bhogal  
Seve Bhogal  
Oliver Brace  
Henry Dickson  
Rupert Dowler (academic scholarship)  
Joseph Dunne  
Mikyle Mirza  
George Nichols  
Gurnek Rayat  
Caiden Rees  
Seth Roberts  
Daniel Roche  
Amrit Singh  
Raahil Walji

# Toddler Tennis

There has been some fancy footwork and drills in the gym this year. Specialised coaching company Toddler Tennis worked with the children in Kindergarten and Nursery to improve their agility, balance and coordination skills through fun tennis-based activities.



# Bold Beginnings

From the earliest age we celebrate all mark making attempts in all contexts. Nursery children work hard on number formations and learn in a fun way about the different ways of representing numbers. During Easter term they looked at numerals, spots on a dice, counting strategies, counting actions and the relationship between numbers and objects.



Nursery and Kindergarten children learned about Diwali with Mrs Kaur and made coconut ice to celebrate the festival.



# Puzzling St Patrick

Great excitement ensued when the leprechaun sent a letter to Nursery. Miss Shipley is always keen to give her children a purpose for their writing and, when the leprechaun informed them that they could find gold coins at the end of a rainbow, they had lots of questions they wanted to ask.

Having found the money, the coloured pencils disappeared. The cheeky leprechaun left behind yellow and green pencils, so which colours were missing, and how many pencils might that be? He even managed to turn a jug of water green, leading to more questioning.

All the thinking and puzzling over mysteries like this, which form a regular part of the Nursery topic work curriculum, is very healthy as it fosters a spirit of curiosity in our children, on which we can build as they move through the school.

The children in Reception created some special super hero pictures, mugs and rosettes to give to their daddies on Father's Day.



# Folktales and Fables

Extremely young children accept fictional characters with special or magical skills and talents, and regularly teaching literature through folktales helps fire up their imagination and offers easy-to-follow examples to use in their own fictional writing and storytelling.

The Russian folktale of The Enormous Turnip was the inspiration for Nursery and Kindergarten children to put their drawing talents to the test during the COVID-19 distance learning curriculum. Superb observation skills of the different vegetables in the story was made by the children, and Mrs Beech was really impressed by the enormous variety of media the children had chosen to use from paint, felt tips pens and colouring pencils, to digital drawing software and oil pastels.



# POLAR EXPEDITION

Pre-prep visited the coolest place on Earth for their Lent term topic work - the polar region!



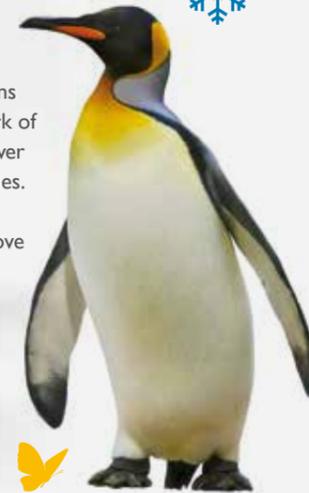
Some classic fiction text sat at the heart of the children's learning experience as they shared Mick Inkpen's Penguin Small, which sets out to explain why penguins don't live in the Arctic. In addition, Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers was the springboard for Reception class to explore characters' feelings and to begin learning the inferential skills we continue to work on right through to Upper School.

A visit from the Freshwater Theatre Company also took inspiration from Lost and Found, as well as from the adventures of Deborah, Dora the Explorer's sister. The children learned facts about penguins, polar bears and Inuits. They looked at the globe to understand the location of the polar regions, made an igloo, survived an expedition into a polar bear cave, rowed to Antarctica and created a group story of their own.

Mathematical development work was given a polar twist. Cubes became icebergs; penguins and polar bears were lined up ready to be counted, combined and bonded to arrive at a total, using all the correct mathematical language.

The topic was intended to be completely immersive for the children and all week the classroom had a polar feel to it. The children made 3D penguins and icicles out of foil, explored the work of the Swiss artist, Paul Klee and Mrs Flower helped everyone make iceberg meringues.

Meanwhile, in PE, the pupils tried to move around the gym like different polar animals, adopting the heavy stride of a polar bear, the waddling of a penguin and the slithering of a seal. They even flew like an albatross.



# Woodland Hideaway



Our nature area, which opened in September 2019, provides a wealth of learning opportunities right across the curriculum. With its well-equipped resources store for creative discovery.



The woodland hideaway was the perfect destination for Reception and Form 1 children to hunt for minibeasts and build minibeast castles as part of their topic work.

# Understanding the World

The butterfly pavilion burst to life in Reception class during summer term. The children witnessed the wonder of the butterfly life cycle as they observed the chrysalis grow and hatch over a number of weeks before being gently released to the wild. Supporting their topic work, the children also made minibeast castles and hunted for minibeasts in the nature area.



# EXPANDING HORIZONS

Horizons continued to be expanded for children in Pre-Prep throughout the year as they took advantage of the specialist teaching facilities. Science, PE and Games, Modern Foreign Languages, Computing, Music, Art and other creative activities featured in the timetable as part of the full and stimulating curriculum taught by our dedicated subject teachers.



A treat at home time? It was Raspberry Buns for Form 3 who have been busy baking in the food technology room. We can confirm the recipe passed 'The Taste Test' conducted in the staff room.



Form 1 worked on a carousel of activities investigating movement with split pins in DT and working with primary colours in the style of Keith Haring in art lessons.



Multi-skills on display by Form 2 as they slice, dice, grate, weigh and stretch to make Funny Face Pizza in food technology.



Developed in computing, Form 2 showcased their eBooks to the Nursery and Kindergarten children proudly explaining how they created them on their iPads and how their interactive books with voice-overs differ from printed books.



Careful observations being made in science as Form 2 ran experiments to find out what happens when you mix different substances.

## ROMANS ARRIVE

Not deterred by the cancellation of the trip to Viriconium (Wroxeter Roman City) Form 3 were eager to discover more about life 2,000 years ago in one of the largest cities in Roman Britain - almost as large as Pompeii. They learned about Roman numerals, created mosaics, built grand villas and got to grips with togas!



## Tamworth Castle

Stepping through 900 years of history, Form 1 uncovered some of the secrets of Tamworth Castle.

During their visit they helped the servants lay the table in preparation for the Lady of the castle, discussing the difference between rich and poor; then and now, finding the objects that people used for dining in the past and exploring the materials from which they were made. They also learned what it took to be a knight in medieval times and experienced marching with their very own bill hook!

The visit was organised to coincide with the beginning of Form 1's topic on castles, an ideal way to enthuse the children and to kick start their learning. They ended their project by creating some wonderful dragon pictures with oil pastels and wrote descriptions of their dragons using adjectives.



## All About Spring

Discovering the pattern of the seasons is very important for early learners and over in Kindergarten Mrs Eades set up a Spring Investigation Station where children could experience the new life and growth of spring at first hand. Signs of spring also burst in to Reception class as they created their life size models of daffodils.



Read more about the children's packed seasonal activity programme in the blog post entitled 'All About Spring' from Miss Freeman on the school website.

## Time Travels to 1666

Freshwater Theatre Company recently joined Form 2 for an interactive drama workshop. They journeyed back to 1666 with Mary Porter - a resident of Pudding Lane at the time of The Great Fire of London. The workshop allowed the children to discover what London was like at the time of The Great Fire, meet the famous diarist Samuel Pepys and debate the rebuilding of the City.

## Prehistoric Times

Through their history studies Form 3 were introduced to the prehistoric and stone age period. They went on a hunt for a mammoth and made a timeline of events for the period. To fit in with the theme, pupils read the beginning of Stig of the Dump and continued the story in their creative writing lessons to create tension to ultimately reveal who else (or what else!) was with Barney.



You can read a selection of the stories on the blog pages of the school website

# Rocket back to the INDUSTRIAL ERA

by Young Reporter Suleiman (Form 5)

At Blists Hill Form 5 experienced Britain's industrial heritage. One of our young reporters, Suleiman, shares their experiences of what life was like for Victorian townfolk.

As we got out of the minibuses my eyes were greeted by the magnificent view of some old Victorian machinery. It was painted green with other pieces of machinery pigmented red. This caught my attention and gave me a taste of what was to come. A spark of excitement was lit up inside me.

We were split into two groups – we went into the village, the other class into the school. In the village we exchanged our £5 for the money in Victorian currency. We were given: farthings, halfpennies, pennies, threepence and a tanner [sixpence]. These coins were replicas of the real change. We set off exploring.

We went to many shops such as the chemists, sweet shop, post office and printer's. After we had explored the town, the teachers allowed us to buy something from the shops that we had visited.

Some people went to the post office, including me. At the post office many of us bought dip pens. The pen was a fountain pen with a gold coloured nib that could be dipped into an ink pot. Beware of dipping too far because then the metal supporting the actual nib will rust! Another classmate bought a newspaper, an old fashioned one at that.

After lunch we visited the school. Our costumes consisted of a cap, a neckerchief and a jacket. After we had changed, a solemn time was ahead of us. We had to walk across the estate knowing that we had to be in a straight line with no talking and our heads down. This was to avoid being told off by the strict Victorian teacher!

Once we had arrived at the school, we stood up for a while before we were given permission to sit down. When we sat down we had to put our caps on a rack under the table. We had to put our hands behind our backs so we didn't slouch, and were only allowed to move them when writing on the tablets. When we were talking to the teacher we had to address her as ma'am and stand up. It was a very harsh environment.

We recited a prayer and then a hymn and times tables in a certain rhythm. We were given money sums on the board and had to write our answers on a tablet with a pen and a cloth to wipe off the things we needed to. It was a harder day than at Eversfield!

Now, as the trip drew to a close, we changed out of our costumes and joined the other group to go home. It was the best trip that we've had and I learned about life as a school boy at my age in Victorian times.



“It was a harder day than at Eversfield!”

## Unipart Challenge

Form 6 were offered a great introduction to the world of engineering when they visited Unipart Manufacturing and took on a number of engineering challenges. They started with drag races and learned about the physics of motion, they built weight-bearing bridges and learned about construction and ways to strengthen materials, and were tasked with drawing a part from a Ford fuel system.

Their newly acquired knowledge was put to the test on their return to school as over the course of the term they worked in teams to design, build and test a prototype for their own battery operated car which was able to travel 3 metres.



## Castles and Conquests

Warwick Castle was the destination for Form 4 to investigate first-hand the Middle Ages. They climbed the ramparts, learned about the Battle of Hastings and events leading up to the Norman Conquest, explored inside and marvelled at the birds of prey with the falconer.



## MATHS MASTERY

Collaboration was key for Form 6 as they worked apprentice-style on their pop-up café business ventures as part of a maths multi-skills challenge during Lent term.

Working in teams the young entrepreneurs developed scale drawings of their café layouts, drew on creativity to develop their marketing materials, and worked through their costings and pricing policy carefully to maximise profitability on their chosen menu, but which of the ventures would actually be the most profitable?

Having calculated the total customer spend and profit, team Lunar Café was pronounced the winner; congratulations to Rosa and Olivia who were clever with their pricing and delivered a huge profit.

## PEDAL POWER

Form 6 enjoyed a day of developing safe cycling habits and mastering new skills. They practised emergency stops, manoeuvring, hand signals and enjoyed an assault course and fun challenges designed to help increase their pedal confidence.



## SPACE CAMP

Prospective astronauts from Form 4 enjoyed a fantastic evening camping 'out' for the night 'in' the JSB! With the magic of technology they were able to stargaze through the clouds, enjoyed a virtual tour of the northern lights and undertook dexterity training ready for take-off.



# Celebration of Literature

To coincide with World Book Day we celebrated literature in a variety of different ways across the school and encouraged the children to talk about their favourite books.

The Tiger Who Came to Tea is a favourite book of the children in Reception (RLV) so for World Book Day they made special tiger masks and enjoyed sharing their other favourite stories with each other, completing book reviews and making bookmarks.

An exciting Book Fair visited and the children were involved in storytelling, learning about other cultures, and had the opportunity to browse and buy books from a dazzling range of fiction and non-fiction titles.

We looked east to 'the land of the rising sun' and the children explored Japanese culture and traditions. Through storytelling each class group was introduced to the language, the countries national dress, the practice of Buddhism prayer and singing bowls, the rise of the powerful samurai warriors, the ceremonial preparation and presentation of tea making, and the art of origami which, through intricate paper folding, saw the children model book marks in the shape of penguins.



## Scholarly Pursuits

Being a scholar at Eversfield is an enormous amount of fun. If you happen to walk past the Denney shortly after eleven o'clock on a Thursday morning, you can be sure to hear peals of laughter ringing out as the scholars get to grips with their latest challenge. These challenges, designed to encourage independent and out-of-the-box thinking, might sometimes have a mathematical or a literary slant, and they range from plain, no nonsense challenges to completely absurd.

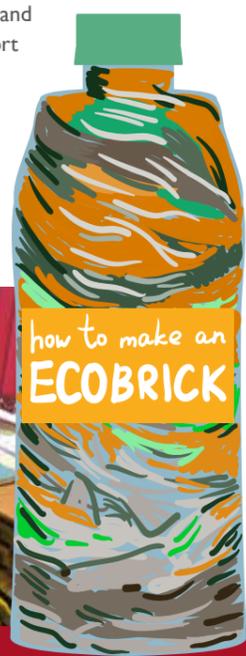
Five children from Form 3 joined in September and, at Christmas, George joined up from Form 4, taking the number for the year to twelve. Variety is what makes the Scholarship Group so much fun for the children, and so rewarding for Miss Freeman, who has promised to keep dreaming up interesting fun challenges for the group.



## ECOBRIK CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGE

PLASTIC WRAPPERS  
PLASTIC STRAWS

The Eco Committee have great plans for how they will use the ecobricks which the whole school has started producing. The ecobricks are milk cartons filled with non-recyclable items such as foil, wrappers and crisp packets. When filled and tightly packed they are strong enough to support a person's weight and can be used to build anything from short term internal structures such as tables, chairs, beds and stages, to external buildings and structures that can last decades. We will keep you posted on what is to be constructed: it seems there are no limits to the potential!



# Get into STEM

To inspire the next generation of engineers we are committed to raising the awareness of STEM-based activities across the school. The children turn their hands to a number of practical investigations that involve problem solving, working as part of a team, critical and creative thinking.

## WHO STOLE KEVIN'S COOKIES?

The BIG mystery of British Science Week was: Who Stole Kevin's Cookies? The whole school collaborated and our crime scene investigators learned about fingerprinting, fibre analysis, chromatography, powder identification and a whole host of other forensic activities as they worked together to solve the disappearance.

Form 3 taught Form 2 how to use the microscope and determined that the fibres found at the crime scene were in fact a blonde hair and some soft black fibres from clothing. Their evidence indicated that Mr Yates and Mrs English were amongst the suspects!

Reception and Form 6 joined forces and the super sleuths conducted chromatography tests. The clumsy culprit had dropped a small piece of paper with a phone number on. Mrs Sliney extracted ink from it and used chromatography methods to analyse the components which were compared to pens taken from different areas of the school. Mrs English's pen and Mr Yates's pen were close matches!

Nursery worked with Form 5 to decode secret messages. A piece of paper was found in the kitchen with an imprint. A clue!! The investigators used torches to figure out that the imprint said, 'First Aid Course'.

Form 1 and 4 collaborated to study fingerprint and footwear impressions. They used trays of flour to make impressions and compare patterns. They deduced that Mrs English made the footwear impression in the kitchen and upon comparing the fingerprint from the scene, to some of the staff fingerprints, they concluded that the cookies were in fact taken by Mrs English!



## FLYING START

Over 50 children entered the charity Paper Aeroplane Competition as part of our British Science Week activity programme. The children observed how each aeroplane performed once launched, discussing shape and the effect of air resistance on the designs. Congratulations to Hugo, Callum and Ted whose aeroplanes travelled the longest distance in each form.



## Parachute Testing Time

There were almost 100 entries and some ingenious designs submitted to the Charity Parachute Egg Drop Competition, and surprisingly few broken eggs! The winners were chosen according to how slowly their egg fell to the ground and how soft the landing was. Many congratulations to all the Form winners: Daniel, Henry, George, Yuki, Trisha, Hattie, Aila, Mariam, William, Henry and Aryan.





Santa visited! The children in Early Years and Pre-prep enjoyed a visit to see Santa who stayed to join the Christmas Fayre in the afternoon.

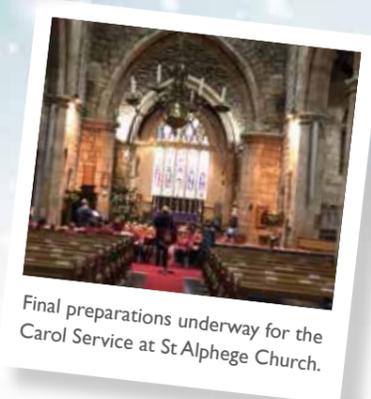


Chamber Choir entertained at the St James Church lunchtime concert with carols and an organ recital.



Can you guess the staff panto?

# Christmas Countdown at Eversfield



Final preparations underway for the Carol Service at St Alphege Church.



Kindergarten posted their letters to Father Christmas today.



Not 1 or 2, or 3, but 5 fabulous trees decorated by the school officials.



School Council decorated festive biscuits to share with Solihull Carers Trust.



A visit to St Alphege Church and Form 2 enjoyed watching the Christmas story unfold at Journey to the Stable.

# Jesus' Christmas Party

Starring Form 1 and 2



★★★★★  
"The children were dazzling!"

Christmas is always a magical time at Eversfield. This year's entertaining nativity musical was hugely popular with the children in Form 1 and 2. With its catchy tunes and lively script they had enormous fun staging the party in the stable with its stream of guests arriving to celebrate the arrival of newborn baby Jesus.

## Busy, Busy, Bethlehem

Starring Early Years

★★★★★  
"The Christmas story retold in an enchanting way."



It was busy, busy, busy in Early Years in preparation for the day in Bethlehem of the approaching census. Performing as soldiers, shepherds, inn keepers, market sellers, angels, camels, sheep, stable animals, sparkly stars, and not forgetting the three Kings with Mary and Joseph, the children retold the traditional nativity story from the perspective of a busy Bethlehem soldier. Packed full of catchy memorable songs the children delivered confident and enchanting performance.

# EVERSFIELD AT HOME

When we closed the doors to school on the afternoon of Friday 20th March, we had no idea when we would see the children again. As adults, we all knew by then that we were on the edge of something serious that would disrupt all our lives.

When it became clear that we wouldn't be returning to school for the summer term, we had to adapt very quickly to a new way of working. We chose Seesaw for its child friendly accessibility as the platform to deliver our online learning curriculum. The children quickly become accomplished in working with Seesaw as teachers pushed its limits to find out just how much could be achieved.

Teachers got to know their classes in different and surprising ways. We saw them working in their living rooms, their kitchens, their gardens; we saw them in their pyjamas, in their T-shirts and shorts and their cool shades. It was a whole new fascinating way to experience working with the children.

While many schools across the region were still finalising their plans for children to return to school, Eversfield was one of the first schools to respond to the Government's directive to partially reopen.

With the required safety measures in place, we welcomed children in Kindergarten, Nursery, Reception, Form 1 and Form 6 back into the classroom on 1st June.

While our comprehensive online programme continued for Forms 2, 3 and 4 there was no substitute for being in school with friends and teachers, so with the appropriate measures in place we welcomed back Form 5 pupils on 15th June. In addition, we introduced the opportunity to attend one session per week for pupils in Forms 2, 3 and 4. Pupils enjoyed the freedom to reunite with space to learn and play together while still observing social distancing.

It was a joy to feel the energy and laughter of the children back with us at school. Those who returned, even for a few hours, enjoyed the opportunity to see friends, teachers and engage again in school-based work.

## MATHS IN FOCUS

The focus in maths for Form 2 one week was learning how to weigh and measure using grams and kilograms. They finished the week applying their newly-learned skills in a practical lesson by following a recipe, measuring ingredients and baking cakes. Some children doubled up on ingredients to test their maths knowledge. What a great way to end a busy week with home baked treats.



## ANCIENT EGYPT

During history lessons Form 4 learned about the formal writing system used in Ancient Egypt. Every ancient Egyptian pharaoh, king, and queen had a hieroglyphic nameplate or seal which spelled out their name. The children created a cartouche with their own names inscribed on them.

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

During geography lessons Form 3 have been considering how they can Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. They investigated the universal recycling symbol, designed in 1970 for an American competition, and were set the challenge to design a new symbol; simple and bold in design that is clear enough to be recognised and understood all over the world.



## Chocks Away

Investigations into the different forms of seed dispersal formed the focus for Form 2 in science e-lessons one week. They made their own helicopter seeds in the style of a sycamore seed and tested their performance.

Visit our Facebook page to see some of the superb video logs demonstrating the helicopter seeds in action.

## Exploring Volcanos

Volcano activity was the focus for Form 3 in geography. They experimented with their own erupting volcanoes at home and learned how volcanoes form the mountains and shape of the earth.

Visit our Facebook page to see some of the fantastic live volcanic eruptions!



# POP ART

For their final assignment of the online learning term Mrs Beech introduced the children to the sculptor Claes Oldenburg. His work features replicas of everyday objects including soft sculpture versions of food. Their task was to bring their favourite food to life as a 3D or 2D object. The results look rather mouth-watering!



## EUROPEAN STUDIES

Travels abroad may not have been possible but Form 5 have been studying the geography, culture and cuisine of Spain as part of their European Study Topic. Mrs Hastings has been blown away by their display of culinary skills. The dishes all look SO delicious!



# PODIUM POSITION FOR NETBALL TEAM

The Eversfield House system has continued to foster a sense of belonging, team spirit, healthy competition and pride. The children have worked hard throughout the year to earn rewards for their House and have competed to win trophies. Michaelmas and Lent terms saw the much-anticipated sporting and musical events, while the Summer term saw all the children compete in a specially adapted virtual sports day and Upper School play for the House Cricket Cup.

It was a closely battled competition but it was Saxons who took the double winning both the Lower School and Upper School House Shields.



## BATTING MASTERCLASS WITH ENGLAND CRICKET LEGEND



Pre-season cricket training got off to a stellar start! England & Warwickshire CCC legend Ian Bell MBE joined us for a cricket Batting Masterclass.

Learning from one of the best professional players our boys and girls were put through some drills to hone their skills. A gripping match provided opportunity to put the newly learned skills into practice with Ian bowling for both teams. It was a fiercely fought game with an exciting final ball clinching the match for the winning team!

## RECORD BREAKERS

We celebrated a trio of new school swimming records PLUS a new athletics record during summer term. Noah, Daniel and Emilia set new records while competing at the U10 & U11 swimming gala held against Solihull School, and Lucy recorded the new high jump record during the in-house U11 girls' athletics trials. WELL DONE!

**Noah Gambroudes (5GH)**  
U10 Boys Swimming Individual Medley: 1.06.75

**Daniel Roche (6PR)**  
U11 Boys Swimming Individual Medley: 1.05.75

**Emilia Partington (6PR)**  
U11 Girls Swimming Individual Medley: 1.10.78

**Lucy Denton (6PR)**  
U11 Girls Athletics High Jump: 1.17metres

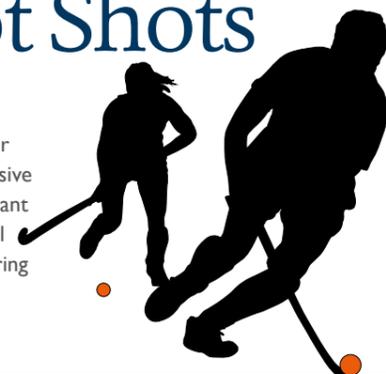
## STADIUM EXPERIENCE

U10 and U11 rugby teams enjoyed a behind the scenes tour at Worcester Warriors. They soaked up the atmosphere before forming a guard of honour to welcome the players onto the field.



## Hockey Hot Shots

Eversfield is somewhat unique in that we offer children a choice between hockey and rugby for Michaelmas term and we once again saw a massive uptake in hockey across Upper School. This meant we became very competitive and enjoyed a real upturn in our fortunes on the hockey pitch during the season.



## EVERSFIELD STAGES RUGBY FESTIVAL

The sun shone and the pitches were immaculate for our eighth annual Rugby Festival held during Michaelmas term. The tournament enables players to kick-off the season with a number of fixtures providing valuable playing time and opportunity to hone their skills. Four schools competed in a round-robin competition.

Eversfield's first match was against last year's tournament winners, The Croft. The team reacted to the fierce competition by focusing on their tactical play and increasing the speed of the game. Despite the home team's hard work and perseverance The Croft were comfortable winners.

Next, Eversfield played Bablake. Learning from their previous game, the team took a strong approach. They successfully pinned the opposition in their own half for large spells of the first half of the match, although resolute defending stopped them from scoring. As the game continued Bablake succeeded in scoring a couple of breakaway tries and were the eventual winners.

The third and final match for Eversfield was against King Henry's. Eversfield started well, exerting a great deal of pressure on King Henry's opposition, and Joshua broke through scoring the first try of the season. This was followed by a second and third, scored by Caiden. A fourth try was scored in the second half, during which Eversfield succeeded in holding off any attack by King Henry's to win the match. A tremendous end to the afternoon.



## FLYING THROUGH TO THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The news we had been patiently waiting for finally arrived towards the end of Summer term, stating whether or not our swimming squad had done enough to get to the IAPS National Swimming Finals. They made it!

Congratulations to all our swimmers who took part in the qualifying round but especially to Daniel (backstroke) and Noah G (butterfly) who finished in the top ten for their category nationally and would have represented Eversfield at the national finals! A phenomenal achievement.

More than 400 schools entered the competition with 40 qualifying galas taking place across the UK during the Lent term. The fastest 1500 swimmers are invited to the national finals which are traditionally held at the London Aquatics Centre in June, but the national pandemic has meant that the finals had to be cancelled and instead the qualifying times were published.

Our swimmers gained excellent places nationally and should be very proud of themselves and all their hard work.



## DAMPENED BUT DETERMINED FOOTBALLERS

Despite the weather's best efforts the footballers all managed to play a number of fixtures during Lent term. The U10's were the most competitive group of the season, with many year groups having three teams to ensure that all of the children (boys and girls) had the opportunity to represent the School.

# ADVENTURES AT PACKWOOD HAUGH

By young reporter Karan (Form 5)

One of our budding young reporters, Karan, set to work to share the adventures of the Year 5 Sports Tour to Packwood Haugh. It is one of the many highlights of the sporting trips calendar.

As soon as we arrived at the gates of Packwood, we were all astonished by the incomparable size of the school. Packwood welcomed us jovially and explained to us the plan for the weekend which was full of fun things to do.

First, we were shown to the separate boarding houses for boys and girls. During the day we played sports matches against Packwood Haugh; the girls played netball whilst the boys played rugby. The rugby team were a very tough team to beat, but by teamwork and compassion we prevailed and won. We also got to play dodgeball and football in the sports hall with some of the Packwood boarders.

In the evening we watched a movie in the theatre complex. The boys watched Garfield 2 and the girls watched Annie. Just before we went to bed, we played some games that Packwood had provided like Chess, Velcro Darts and Frustration! We also got to relax in our pyjamas and have treats which was great. The morning was brilliant as we had a tasty fry-up and all discussed



the exciting day ahead. We were looking forward to ice-skating even though some of us hadn't done it before, including myself. Luckily Mrs Buxton was there to save the day and help us get more confident; I eventually got the hang of it. Some of my friends were really experienced skaters and could skate backwards which I was really impressed by. We then had lunch and were also lucky enough to watch an ice-hockey match between Telford Tigers and Steel Dogs.

Sadly, the trip ended too quickly and it was time to go home. I thoroughly recommend the trip, it was action-packed and is something to look forward to when you join Year 5.



## CHESS SUCCESS

Chess players celebrated success in the 2020 Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge. Over 70 children took part in the preliminary stage which saw 22 of our players qualify for the Megafinal. Sadly the national pandemic prevented further stages taking place but Mr James believed a number of our skilful players had the potential to progress far.

## ANGLES V SAXONS

The Eversfield House system has continued to foster a sense of belonging, team spirit, healthy competition and pride. The children have worked hard throughout the year to earn rewards for their House and have competed to win trophies. Michaelmas and Lent terms saw the much-anticipated sporting and musical events, while

the summer term saw all the children compete in a specially adapted virtual sports day and Upper School play for the House Cricket Cup.

It was a closely battled competition but it was Saxons who took the double winning both the Lower School and Upper School House Shields.

### HOUSE FOOTBALL

House matches began with the U9 footballers playing a pulsating game in the rain and mud which saw the Angles take a 4-0 lead at half time, only for the Saxons to halve the deficit in the second half. There was still plenty to play for in the Form 3 match but Saxons continued to pull ahead to win.

### House Music

Over 60 pupils auditioned and the two choirs, one of Angles and the other of Saxons, worked hard to perfect their vocal performances.

The appreciative audience were treated to a programme from a wide range of instruments including piano, wind, brass, string and drums, and pieces that varied in style from folk and classical, to pop and musical theatre.

The Saxons impressed with 'Yellow Bird', but it was the Angles, who were in fine voice singing 'With a Little Help from My Friends', who were pronounced the winners.



### Camaraderie and Competition in Lockdown

Sports Day is one of the annual highlights of the House system and Mr Sliney was determined that the national school closures would not prevent Eversfield continuing its long-held school tradition of competing for the coveted cups.

Across six specially adapted events children had to report their best time or distance. The results were combined, and averages

calculated, to establish the winning house for Lower School and Upper School. Mr Poultney was rooting for Angles and was delighted to see them clinch the Lower School Cup, while it was Mr Hastings who celebrated with Saxons on their victory of Upper School House Sports Day Cup.

### Senior House Cricket

The Senior House Cricket Cup saw each pod play a pairs match. It was a convincing win for Saxons with a 40 run lead after the Form 5 matches, which Form 6 extended to seal the victory.



# YOUNG VOICES

Form 6 pupils took to the stage in the Young Voices 2020 series of live music concerts touring the UK. Performing alongside over 5,000 other children they entertained a 15,000 packed-to-capacity crowd at the prestigious Resorts World Arena, Birmingham.

The concert was the culmination of weeks of dedication and hard work by the children. Under the direction of Everfield's Director of Music, Mr Biggs, the children learned over 20 songs from a wide range of music styles, along with a series of specially choreographed moves. The show featured guest headline artist Tony Hadley along with The Shires, who have become one of the most talked-about country music acts, and former The Voice UK winner Ruti.



Reception class enjoyed their music lesson outside, learning all about beats and musical notes, and making friends with Queenie Quaver, Sam Semibreve, Charlie Crotchet and Mary Minim.

## Musical Accolades

With over 140 individual instrument lessons taking place every week, music plays an important role in school life at Eversfield. The children's enjoyment of playing, and dedication to practising, is evident by the fantastic set of music exam results with over 50% of the children achieving Distinction or gaining Merit in Lent and Michaelmas term examinations.



Many congratulations to all the children - Mr Biggs and all the visiting music staff are very proud of you.

## Mother's Day Tribute

A highlight for children and parents of Lent term is our special Mother's Day celebration. Unfortunately we couldn't invite parents to join us in school this year due to social distancing guidelines, but after weeks of rehearsals, Mr Biggs was determined the children would share their songs and poems with parents. A special video recording of the children's performance was shared digitally and the children in Kindergarten created their 'virtual' audience of Mums to ensure they were with us in heart and spirit.



## AMAZING AIDAN



Congratulations to Aidan who, despite being only 8 years old, was awarded the Solihull Musician of the Year 2019 after winning the under 11 classes in both piano and violin.

# A Dream Performance



Shakespeare Week has become a March tradition for Form 5 at Eversfield and despite the obstacles presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, this year was no exception. In common with any fine troupe of actors, Form 5 proved above all else that, whatever is happening in the world, the show must go on.

The choice for 2020 was Shakespeare's much-loved comedy Midsummer Night's Dream. In the space of just one week lines were learnt in lieu of other homework, stage directions practised and understood, and nerves conquered. This year, the cast also had to grapple with absences, understudying and last minute adaptation, and they did so magnificently.

Looking back, it's impossible to overstate what an achievement it was for pupils and teachers alike to stage the production. It was such a pity that it wasn't possible for us to have parents watching, we certainly missed you, but you should know that your children did you proud.



## Encore! *Bravo*

Reunited after the schools closure period, Form 5 collaborated to perform Pachelbel's Canon. Mr Biggs would typically dedicate the term to practise the piece but the pods had just two weeks to perfect their performance. Played in 6 parts they undertook score manipulation, revised notation, learned their individual parts and put them together to produce a moving recital.

Listen to the astonishingly accomplished performance of Form 5 (5GH) on our YouTube Channel.

## Music for Youth

The Music for Youth Primary Prom concert offered Form 5 the opportunity to experience live music making in one of the world's most famous concert halls.

From jazz, rock and pop bands, to symphony orchestras, there was something to capture the imagination of everyone in the packed concert which saw up to one thousand musicians take to the remarkable Royal Albert Hall stage. There was even a chance for children to be part of an audience participation piece.



# Make a Mark: Art Workshop

Creative talents were unleashed as a group of Form 6 pupils set about exploring the work of acclaimed artists. Their brief was not to attempt to copy, but to explore the possibilities and make their own interpretation of the artists' work, so their own finished portrayal was 'in-the-style-of'.

Everyone chose a different artist on which to base their interpretation with the work of Van Gogh, Peter Blake, Henri Rousseau, Claude Monet and René Magritte all represented in the final selection, to name a few.

The workshop started with an exercise to overcome the 'fear' of a blank canvas which many young artists experience. Feeling liberated by the warm-up exercise, pupils then prepared their canvas of newspaper and tissue on which to base their work. While the canvases dried there was opportunity for everyone to research the work and style of their chosen artist.

Using the artist's picture as inspiration, students built-up their deconstructed image using acrylics and water-based paints to achieve a finished composition. The creative workshop not only provided opportunity for pupils to make their mark through self-expression, but also encouraged inventiveness, self-discipline and problem-solving skills.



Our younger pupils have been getting to grips with threading, stitching and sewing and have crafted some gorgeous appliqué pictures based on shape.



**Love is in the air!**  
Valentine's cards by Mrs Phillips' DT group - all individually designed & made.

## Art Students Shine

The work of three of our talented artists was featured in an exhibition which celebrated art across the region. Congratulations to Lexi H, Dongrun Y and Nihaal P whose entries featured alongside that of over 150 other young local artists at the special Young Artists Exhibition staged by Warwick School.

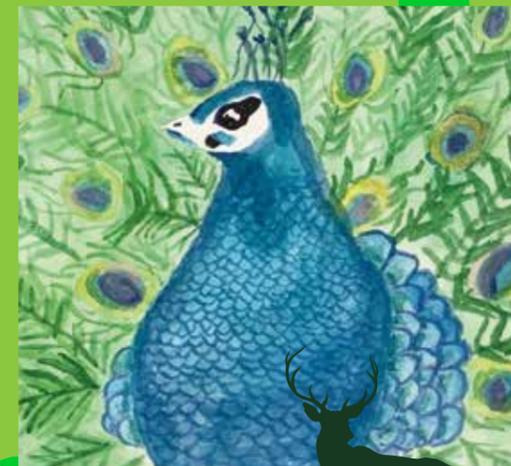
## RECYCLED ART

Mrs Beech asked the children to let their imagination loose and set to work creating different themed projects all from recycled materials at home. The results, as you can see from this small selection, are sensational.



## Wild Art

A huge number of our talented young artists entered the RSPB Wild Art 2020 competition. This gallery is just a small collection of the amazing work created by the children from as young as 6 years old in Form 1. Luckily there were a number of categories and age groups to enter as it would be impossible to pick just one winner!



Compassion is at the heart of our school code and our charity outreach programme offers the children the opportunity to develop a greater understanding of how they can contribute back to society and support those less fortunate in the community.

# FANTASTIC FIVERS



Having been given a £5 note, enterprising Form 5 pupils were challenged to use the money to support a fundraising activity of their choice. They invested their 'Fantastic Fivers' in support of the Carers Trust Solihull - raising over £4,000.

Children baked over 300 cupcakes, washed cars, sold craft items including bookmarks and handmade Christmas cards, sold refreshments at events and organised a charity walk. One of the school's talented musicians even recorded a Christmas album, selling over 200 CDs.

The young entrepreneurs held raffles, with many prizes donated by local retailers, and auctioned a signed Birmingham City football shirt. Local shops donated pastries which one team sold at offices with a freshly brewed cup of tea or coffee. At each event they explained why the School Council had decided to raise funds for Solihull's young carers and how the Charity, Carers Trust Solihull, provides support for these young people.

The support of friends and family was overwhelming and the children greatly appreciated the generosity of all the local companies that kindly donated supplies and prizes to help.



# CLASS COIN COLLECTION



The Lenten class coin collection raised funds for the Reshomile Township School in Johannesburg. The final count provided the perfect opportunity to practise number bonds, decimals and reasoning skills and the team soon had it sorted. HUGE thanks to everyone who contributed; the donation of over £400 will make a difference to the children at the School.

# Fun and Friendships

It was a day for fun and friendships as children from Carers Trust Solihull joined the School Council for an after school swim and splash session. The event had been organised to offer some respite and a social fun opportunity for young carers facing challenges in their daily lives.

Members of the School Council welcomed 16 children from the young carers' community for a special pool time fun session hosted in the school's swimming pool and sports complex. Some wonderful friendships were forged at the event and they all had an unforgettable afternoon of fun.



# HARVEST TIME

Our support to Helping Hands continued this year – a huge thank you to everyone who donated harvest produce. The charity provides support and emergency food provision to the vulnerable and your donation made a real difference to those most in need within our community.



# CHALLENGE

We were inspired by the pupils that joined the 2.6 Challenge which Mrs McGrory set the children to help raise funds for Solihull Carers Trust during the distance learning period. The initiative was connected to the London Marathon, which sadly couldn't run this year, and required the children to invent a sponsored challenge that used the number 2.6 or 26.

Pedal power proved a popular choice with children cycling and scooting to raise funds. Everything from gymnastics, agility challenges, yoga, cricket and football skills, to tests of memory, trampolining and artistic pursuits had an ingenious 2.6 twist. A tremendous £1,330 was raised.



# Pulling Together

Every year the Eversfield School Association (ESA) arrange an array of events and activities to raise funds and enable children, parents and staff to gather socially.



Thank you to everyone who helped supply the bumper collection of over 100 bags for the Bag2School initiative.

For parents whose children were new to Eversfield, the ESA hosted an inaugural Welcome Drinks Party at St John's hotel during Michaelmas term. The legendary school disco in October raised almost £600 and a termly programme of coffee mornings, which often included a second hand uniform store, boosted funds further. The ESA also paid for the GRIT talks delivered to children in Years 5 and 6 by sports psychologist Tom Bates who spoke about the power of a growth mind-set on performance and success.

The Christmas Fayre kicked off the season's festivities in style and boosted funds by over £3,000. The children enjoyed shopping for special gifts at the present shop, and a very special visitor from the North Pole, accompanied by his reindeer, visited the children in Early Years.

Unfortunately plans for Lent and summer terms had to be postponed due to the pandemic, but that didn't stop the children thinking of ingenious ways to continue to raise funds to support the school's chosen charity, Solihull Carer's Trust.



## Wildlife Area Unveiled

Since being unveiled in September 2019 the wildlife area has become an invaluable destination for immersive learning opportunities.

Funded by ESA, this completely enclosed and secure woodland hideaway has a well-equipped resources store for outdoor learning, and allows our children to explore animals and plants at first hand. Native wildflowers have been planted for pupils to identify, and feeder stations encourage wildlife.

The space is ideal for creative discovery and collecting materials for art projects. To help develop a setting for writing poetry about senses Form 2TS explored the woodland, and Year 4 had fun creating rubbings of different textures. The nature area has also been used regularly for team building, pond dipping, practical exploration in Maths and ever popular bug hunting.



# Annual Awards



### FORM PRIZES

Form 1	Form 2	Form 3	Form 4	Form 5	Form 6
Rohan Agarwal Charlie-Bleu Ataria-Cadman Ranyah Chaudhry Jonathan Riedner	Lincoln Baxter Charles Bradshaw Luella Hutton Sarah Iqbal	Luna Dacre Reuben Fowler Sania Islam Leo Riedner	Trisha Deshpande George Horton William Jarrett Shriyaa Varadpande	Qihao Gao Charlotta Nankivell Daniel Page Tayla Spooner	Rosalia Doyle Joseph Dunne Gurnek Rayat Raahil Walji

### 11+ SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Lucy Denton	Gymnastics
Rupert Dowler	Academic
Hermione Nash	Performing Arts, Drama
Emilia Partington	Academic
Caiden Rees	Sport
Daniel Roche	Art
Avani Sura	Art
Olivia Terry	Academic

### 7+ ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Logan Bird
Haoyuan Deng
Leo Grove
Henry Shi

### PRE-PREP CUPS AND AWARDS

The Lower School Endeavour Cup – Leo Grove

### FORM 6 CUPS AND AWARDS

- The Donald Smith Cup for consistent high academic standards – Rupert Dowler
- The Lattey Cup for all round contribution – Emilia Partington
- The Carole Burke Science & Engineering Award – Malakai Eccleston
- The Headmaster's Cup for Contribution to Girls' Team Sports – Chloe James
- The Headmaster's Cup for Contribution to Boys' Team Sports – Caiden Rees
- The Madden Cup for good citizenship – Seve Bhogal
- The Starbuck Cup for Art – Sergio Bhogal
- The Beatrice Humphris Cup for Music – Darshan Mistry
- Drama Cup including LAMDA achievement – Hermione Nash
- Information Technology Cup – Avani Sura

## Valete et Salvete

Mrs Claire Field joined us in Form 1 providing maternity cover for Mrs Rhian Gilmartin, and Mrs Heather Baldwin returned from maternity leave, resuming her role as Subject Leader of Modern Foreign Languages which had been covered by Mrs Debbie Murray-Smith who has since also had a new arrival to her family.

Mr Mike Nowland joined our peripatetic music team offering cello tuition. Mrs Rajender Kaur joined as Lunchtime Supervisor. We also welcomed back Teaching and Learning Support Assistant, Mrs Carly Woodward, from maternity leave.

We welcomed three new Governors to our Board of Governors. Mrs Deborah McMillan joined in September 2019, and Mr Gary Marsh and Mrs Jane Scott joined in February 2020. All three bring with them a wealth of experience from both industry and the academic sector. At the end of the summer term we said farewell to two longstanding

members of the teaching and learning support team. Mrs B Flower, who joined us in September 2005, and Mrs Jackie Maher, who joined us in April 2002, both received a gift of crystal from the Governors to mark their long and valued service.

Mr Bob Adkinson retired after working at Eversfield in different capacities since 1999, Mrs Deana Arrand, Lunchtime Supervisor and Librarian since February 2018 departed, along with Mrs Liz Burgess, who joined us in April 2011 as a Lunchtime Supervisor and assisted with swimming. We also said goodbye to Mrs Julia Creaton, who had been a member of peripatetic music team for 15 years.

Eversfield's Director of Finance since 2016, Mr John Southwick, retired and we welcomed Mrs Caroline Averill as Finance Manager and Mrs Lisa Ironmonger as Marketing Manager.



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