

Headteachers newsletter Spring Term 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Is it too late to say Happy New Year? I hope not and hope it has started well for you all. It has been lovely to see everyone back at Ernehale refreshed from our break and eager and keen to embrace the exciting term ahead.

Looking back to last term, it was interesting to see how many visitors we have had through our doors with our new status as a National Support School. Over Autumn, we enjoyed hosting many visitors around school, from our Trainee teachers, Trainee Headteachers to HMI, all looking at our best practice Teaching and Learning. As ever, our children did us proud!

They also did us proud during their performances over at Arnold Hill Academy and we'd like to thank you for your support over our Christmas concert period. We know there were a lot of instructions/ letters as we prepared for new experiences and very much appreciated your good humoured support. It was also great to see our playground full of Christmas singers on the last day where we raised a wonderful £145.96 for the NSPCC whilst our fabulous PFA raised £240. This brings the PFA total so far to just under £2,700.

I know many of our pupils have had new devices as Christmas Presents. It seems an opportune time to signpost a few useful web addresses to ensure that the device settings are appropriate and to keep your child safe at home.

The online resource is linked to this for parents: <http://parentinfo.org/> - a collaboration of CEOPs and Parent Zone.

Magazine: Digital Parenting – published twice a year - <https://parentzone.org.uk/projects/digital-parenting-magazine> link to sign up for a newsletter.

Can I also remind you that, to keep children safe at school, mobile phones are only allowed in Y6 for pupils walking home on their own. These devices must be handed in to the class teacher at the beginning of the day. We'd also request that no internet watches are brought to school either. We know what a minefield keeping safe online can be so hopefully these links will be beneficial. Please ask if we can support you any further with this.

Since we've been back, I'm very excited to announce that your child now has a Times Tables Rock Stars account. When it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are so important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations.

Times Table Rock Stars is a fun and challenging programme designed to help students master the times tables! It can be accessed via the website on a computer or downloaded as an app for iOS and android devices. Please encourage your child to access the programme as often as possible – little and often has the most impact on learning!

To be a Times Table Rock Star they need to answer any multiplication fact up to 12×12 in less than 3 seconds and the goal is for all participating rockers to be Times Table Rock Stars after 20 weeks! Rock on! 😊

So from maths to reading....Last week I interviewed some of our pupils to discuss reading and was thrilled to find out how many of them had books for Christmas. 'Bad Dad' by David Walliams was definitely a big hit at Ernehale and under many Christmas trees. Thank you for supporting us to encourage our pupils to have a life-long love of reading – there's nothing better than getting stuck into a cracking book!

As always, we are striving to be the best we can be so warmly welcome your thoughts and reflections. We would invite you to spend a few minutes filling in parents view on <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk> so we [can collect your feedback.](#)

[Thank you all, as always, for your continued support and being such essential members of Team Ernehale.](#)

[Hopefully see you on the playground soon,](#)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Batley". The script is cursive and fluid.

Anne Batley

