

# Easton Royal Academy: Report to Parish Council

## March 2017



### 1. Supporting Prospect Hospice

We dressed green for the day to support local charity, Prospect hospice. We are also collecting change in smarties tubes for the same cause. This is a whole cluster project and so the money that we raise will be added to the money from other schools. Over the last few years, Marlborough cluster schools have raised over £15,000.



### 2. Woodland Adventures

Our reception cohort have started a 12 week outdoor learning programme with qualified forest school leader, Tamzin Henderson. They go to the wooded area by the village hall together for one morning a week and learn a range of skills such as problem solving, team work, self-expression, and independence...as well as getting generally muddy and drinking hot chocolate!

### 3. World Book Week

We had a wonderful book week with a visit from the author of 'Ned's Circus of Marvels', Justin Fisher. We also held a parent workshop morning with a variety of sessions, each based around a different type of poem. Children then worked on their own poems and performed them over the microphones at our very own poetry slam. We also had a go at memorising a whole poem and performing it together.



Here is an example of one of the parent comments we had after the event:

***"I just wanted to say a massive well done for book week so far, the workshops were engaging for parents and children and it didn't seem to matter how old you were everyone could join in, the special bit for me was seeing how the teachers are with the children. It didn't matter what class I was in every teacher was on the same page they were energetic and enthusiastic and taught the children on their level, you could see all of the kids being drawn in. The girls have been watching Michael Rosen clips on u tube and talking about his facial expressions and repetition with words, the author visit had them bouncing up and down begging for a book to be ordered and in the evenings they have been discussing which type of poem they will be using in the poetry slam. I have seen a change, they come home telling me about their days be it science and mouldy bread or a new maths problem. It is so nice to hear. Also the fact I did not have to make a costume for world book day made me very happy!"***



**Excellence**  
**Adventure** &



## 4. Numbers Count!

We have a wonderful new active mathematics curriculum that takes all children, no matter what their stage or age through the 3 modes of Mathematical learning. We begin each new unit with concrete and practical methods to help children gain conceptual understanding before moving on to pictorial and abstract Maths.

The new emphasis on Mathematical reasoning and investigation has really helped to turn maths lessons into a learning adventure where children follow a line of enquiry and are able to try out new ideas and methods.

Thanks to help from some local villagers, the children also have extra help with their multiplication tables and with their spelling. If you would like to join a team of volunteers helping children in school, please don't hesitate to give us a ring on 01672 810477 or email [admin@eroyal.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@eroyal.wilts.sch.uk)



## 5. Story Shed Project

Our 'Story Shed' project is now nearing completion. The unit itself has been in place for a while but we recently held a school 'ground-force' day where parents came in with tools and we set to work on the secret garden that will be attached to the story shed.

So far we have wood-chipped the path and garden as well as cleared an area under the tree for some seating. We have wood-chipped the garden and we are now looking for any donations for plants and shrubs that will help to further enhance the space.

**The most important thing is that we are now looking for some community volunteers who can spare an hour or more each week to come and share a story on a one-to-one basis with our children, particularly with those who do not have the opportunity to share a story at home. We would particularly like volunteers who live in Easton Royal.**

If you think you might enjoy being part of this project, we would really love to hear from you and you can contact us by calling 01672 810477 and asking for Beck Stubbs or by emailing [admin@eroyal.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@eroyal.wilts.sch.uk) FAO Beck Stubbs.





## 6. STOMP!

All children took place in dance workshops this term, led by one of the performers from the London theatre project – 'STOMP!'

Children learned a range of different moves and rhythms, using their own body as a percussion instrument, and then we put them all together into a final performance.

It was particularly inspiring to see a famous dancer perform live for us.

We have developed a real specialism in rhythmic styles of music at the school since local group 'Opera Luna' donated a whole set of African Djembe drums and Wiltshire Council lent us their Brazilian percussion.

Pete Francis, from STOMP commented on how advanced the children were – even those as young as four!

We were very proud of them.



# Ways to Get Involved at Easton Royal Academy:

- Come and have a tour of the school, a lot has changed and we'd love to show villagers around.
- Get involved with our work on times-tables through one to one work with children. Led by Barbara Frodsham, who lives opposite the school.
- Become a 'story-shed' volunteer by coming into school and sharing a story with a child.
- Help us with our understanding of the World by sending us a postcard from a foreign holiday that we can add to our giant map in the hall or come and share some holiday snaps and stories with us.
- Come along to one of our school events – everyone is welcome and we advertise dates on the school website (*the next dates you might enjoy are our 'Exhibition of Learning' in the school hall from 2:45pm on April 5<sup>th</sup> and our Easter service at the church with Rev. Mark Windsor at 1:30pm on April 7<sup>th</sup>*).
- Do you enjoy gardening? Would you like to come into school and work with a small group of children and their teaching assistant on some gardening in and around our school? Maybe you would like us plant flowers in our front bank? Are you able to donate plants, shrubs or flowers for our new secret garden?

Please contact us on 01672 810477 or [admin@eroyal.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@eroyal.wilts.sch.uk) we are really looking forward to hearing from you.