Easton Royal Academy APC Notes 12th May 16

* SATs tests were this week and children have done brilliantly. Children have a special breakfast cooked for them on the day of each test. Children have taken the tests with little fuss or anxiety because we do not ‘teach to the test’ and continue with our creative curriculum throughout year 6 – just like any other year.
* We are using the recreation ground for PE in the juniors and our increased focus on developing PE (and the space that the rec’ has afforded us) is now starting to pay off and our children came first and third in the recent cluster school’s competition for gifted and talented sports-people. This competition included over 50 children from all schools in the Marlborough area cluster so we are very proud.
* Out forest school program for 4 and 5 year olds at the school has been another big success. Our forest school’s practitioner led the small band of children in lots of sessions in the small wooded area next to the rec. Children used the area on a weekly basis come rain or shine and set up log-circles, rope swings and dens as well as creating art and story-telling. The forest school project will run again in the next academic year.
* The open the book project is still going strong in school. This is led by local residents and members of the church community who come into assembly and act out stories from the Bible with the children in supporting roles. The children love the assemblies and there are always cheers when they see the open the book team walk into school.
* We will be taking in a full cohort of new children in September and we now have a waiting list.
* ERA have been successful in our bid to the Tesco carrier bag scheme and we have been awarded £10,000 for our ‘story shed’ project. This will be a new outdoor learning area set in our nature garden and will be used to further encourage a love of reading and the sharing of stories and books. When the project is complete, children will be advertising in the village for some community representatives who love reading to come and be part of our mini ‘book-clubs’ and share their love of reading. If you think you might be able to inspire one of our children to get into reading for pleasure, then please watch this space!