

18.3.22

Dear Parents,

We have had another fantastic week at Ellacombe with a wide range of learning happening across the curriculum. We would also like to take this opportunity for your support with staff absences over the past couple of weeks. The staff and children at Ellacombe have been brilliant when adapting to changes in the classroom and the children's resilience with this has been amazing. We cannot thank you enough.

Enriching Curriculum and Community Experiences

This week we have been celebrating Science Week. This year's theme has been 'Growth' and the children have loved having experiments each week. Here are just a few:

- EYFS have been creating seed bombs to plant in their gardens.
- Y1 have been making building blocks out of shapes to build structures.
- Y2 have been thinking about different trees, what they need to grow and the difference between natural and man-made objects.
- Y3 have been designing a sustainable burger.
- Y4 have been creating their own creatures from clay thinking about what they would need to survive on another planet.
- Y5 pupils have been looking at how to calculate the life of a shark. Seeing if there are links between their age and their length.
- Y6 have been using their engineering skills to work out what factors impact the growth of slime!

We've also had visits from Fizz Pop Science, who conducted experiments to inspire children, Spires College who gave the children a demonstration of the digestive system and Animal Encounters who brought in a range of animals for the children to see, touch and ask questions about. They learnt about evolution of animals and even met a Tenrec which evolved from an Elephant!

Phew what a busy week!



Ellacombe C of E Academy
Ellacombe Church Road, Torquay
Devon, TQ1 1TG
T: 01803 293040 E: ellacombe@lapsw.org
W: ellacombe-lap.co.uk



FLOURISHING FUTURES

Talking about World events with pupils

On Tuesday, I held an assembly to sensitively talk to all children about the events unfolding in Ukraine. We talked about the support that was being offered to families impacted from the war and how we could help. This assembly was centered around how countries in Europe are full of kind, caring people but unfortunately, one President has decided to invade another country. Teachers will continue to talk to children about this in class, as needed and ensure all information is sensitive.

We know here in Torquay our community is rich and diverse and this is not about one nation against another but about tragic events which have left people worried and how out of this, others are showing kindness. In doing this, we create a safe space for children to talk about any worries they have, having seen the news or just hearing about events from others. This will be done in an age-appropriate way, led by myself. Older pupils in Y5/6 will have the opportunity to watch 2 Newsround videos on the events to help them make sense of what they are more likely to be seeing online or hearing from others.

We thought it would be helpful to share the links to these with parents as others may wish to watch with their children and have those conversations too.: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/60522331>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/60554258>

Parent Learning

Please do contact Miss Rose, Family Support, to find out more about these brilliant Parent learning opportunities!

Are you thinking about a fresh spring start?

You can now access **FREE**
Level 2 accredited training
from the AIM Group

Ellacombe Academy are here to support you through this.

Get in touch today with the Family Support Team on 01803 293040 – option 2

Young Carers


This week we have been celebrating our Young Carers by welcoming our local Carers Trust into school to speak to the children and raise awareness. #YoungCarersActionDay (Wednesday 16th March 2022) is about action and delivering change for young adult Carers. Carers Trust has developed several calls to action for Young Carers Action Day 2022. One of the main ones is

asking decision makers to commit to ensuring young adult Carers can access respite breaks. These are essential in providing much-needed freedom from responsibilities and routines, as well as reducing isolation and promoting wellbeing. We will call for increased investment in short breaks, so they become a right for young people with caring responsibilities.

Our Young Carers have been treated to a special lunch this week and a little goody bag to take home with them.



Yours Sincerely



Mrs Semmens

Head of Academy