

# The Edith Borthwick School

## Weekly Update

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

### Head's Update

Welcome to the last newsletter of this half term, at the end of an unusual week. I am so sorry that we had to close the school yesterday due to a large power cut that happened in our part of Braintree. This knocked out the electric across the school, which then meant that our water pumps and gas wouldn't work, so we couldn't cook, heat the school, use the toilets and sinks, use the phones or close the front door. We are all very aware of what an impact this has on our families and it is not a decision that we took lightly.

Last week, some of our families went to the SEND Transition event in Colchester, which was organised by Gary, our Careers Lead, and staff from other local special schools. Gary reported that this was a really successful event which received positive feedback.

On Wednesday, we had our Termly Learning Conferences - thank you to the families that met with our teachers to discuss their child's progress.

Yesterday, FOEBS were due to hold an evening Valentine's disco. Unfortunately, there weren't enough tickets sold to make this event viable to run. FOEBS are very keen to understand how to make this event more appealing, **so please send any feedback to:** [chair.foebs@edithborthwick.essex.sch.uk](mailto:chair.foebs@edithborthwick.essex.sch.uk). We have been discussing possibly holding an Easter daytime disco at the end of March - further details to follow once it has been planned.

In class and assemblies this week, we have been looking at using the internet safely. This seems particularly important as we go into a school holiday. On that note, we would like to wish you all a happy and restful half term! We look forward to welcoming our learners back into school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

Happy Valentine's! ♥

Maggie

### Class of the Week – M2

#### Class Teacher George says...

Throughout this half term, M2 have had a wonderful time exploring our topic 'Winter Wonderland'. In class, we have enjoyed getting messy making fake snow, have explored ice and cold items, created winter sensory bottles, tasted hot chocolate and painted with a variety of tools to make snow themed pictures. During sensory cookery, we have had fun exploring different food items and practiced a range of skills such as following recipes, chopping, spreading and mixing ingredients to make winter themed snacks.



This week, we followed instructions to make sausage rolls, which looked, smelt and tasted delicious! The mud garden has also been a favourite activity this



term. We have loved our weekly visits and the opportunity to explore the ever-changing state of the mud due to the weather. Not only has everyone loved splashing in the wet muddy puddles, but we have also enjoyed

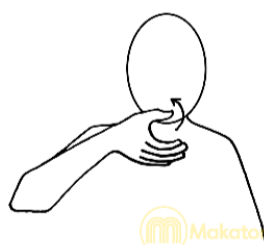
exploring and breaking up the frozen mud on our chillier days.

### Word of the Week



### Sign of the week

Drink



### Other notices

**Volunteers wanted!** We are looking for parents, carers or family members who would like to help support us during off site activities such as swimming, horse-riding, forest school, Danbury and Harlow outdoors. We will provide you with a DBS check. If you are interested, please email: [admin@edithborthwick.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edithborthwick.essex.sch.uk)

### Upcoming dates

13/02/2023 – 17/02/2023 February half term

02/03/2023 World Book Day

03/03/2023 Cake Sale

### Governors

#### Spotlight on: Heather Hill, Co-opted Governor



I am the parent of two boys that attended Edith Borthwick. When the opportunity to become a governor arose as a parent governor, moving to a co-opted governor in my second term of office, I did not hesitate.

I spent my working life supporting and managing supported housing for vulnerable people in the community for all areas of need in Colchester and Chelmsford. Through my journey as a SEND parent, I realised that families needed other services outside school hours. Using my career experiences and knowledge, I set up a charity in 2018 to support families with activities and clubs.

### FOEBS

We have plans for spending some funds raised last year, arranging more events and developing projects. We would love more folks to get involved; learners, family members, staff and the local community are all welcome. You don't have to attend our Team Meetings or commit lots of time: [chair.foebs@edithborthwick.essex.sch.uk](mailto:chair.foebs@edithborthwick.essex.sch.uk)

If you would like to get in touch contact or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOEBS> or email: [victoriaf@edithborthwick.essex.sch.uk](mailto:victoriaf@edithborthwick.essex.sch.uk)