

Report to Etchingham Parish Council  
Etchingham C E School

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019

This term is proving to be a very active one for everyone connected with school. We have been running several Maths Mastery sessions for parents. These are to introduce the new style of teaching maths as taught to the Key Stage groups at this time. I sat in on a session where the children were introduced to the concept of odd and even numbers; I'm sure we never had such background detail in my day ...we just were told this is how it's done and got on with it!

We have also run a 'Stay and Read' session for parents of the Reception Class to introduce phonics. This had a really good attendance and well done to Russell, one of our NQT's with such a full classroom of little ones and parents to cope with.

Still on the literary front, we celebrated World Book Day with the children dressing up as their favourite character and introducing the book to their class. Of course there are some children who don't like dressing up so we don't insist they do. A contribution of £1 per family was collected for our link school -Thasa in Malawi, to enable them to buy books for their pupils.

Continuing the Learning Journey theme, all the children have been taking part in Rainforest Workshops.

I attended a session with Key Stage 2, presented by Zoolab.

The introductory talk focused on the changing nature of the rainforest in many parts of the world and it's effect on climate change.

The second part featured the introduction of some of the forest animals.

Fortunately a huge Tarnatula called Diva remained safely in her box as indeed did Lennon the Packman Frog.

However, the Madagascan Hissing Cockroach was handled by several of the children and I made a discreet exit when the enthusiastic keeper revealed a rather large yellow American Corn Snake from her holdall!

Education nowadays is lively and engaging...who wouldn't want to go to school with this sort of primary curriculum.

The search for our Executive Head continues (sounds like Alan Sugar searching for his next apprentice.) However, we have until 30<sup>th</sup> April to sign up a serving teacher. There seems to be a dearth of senior people on the move and the responsibilities of headship nowadays are clearly a daunting prospect for many.

Annette Childs Chair of Governors

