

Issue 4

November
2020



NURTURING KINDNESS, COMPASSION & SELF BELIEF

Dear Parents & Carers,

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of Eton Dorney Independent Therapeutic School. I am very proud to have been appointed at such an important phase of the schools next steps and I am looking forward to working in partnership with you. As I embark on my third Headship, I bring experience and skills that run across school leadership but also a 24 year teaching career in a variety of SEND settings.

I have also been privileged to represent young people impacted by SEND and schools at ministerial meetings, lead training for education and care professionals around PDA and ACES, and the barriers people often put in place, when it is actually these young people who teach us how to deliver education well.

My own education journey was one I had to navigate, moving between children's homes and family, school to school, moving into supported living at 15 with an amazing team of teachers at the local secondary school set me up to believe in myself and have passion to make a difference.

So enough about me! Sadly, we have said goodbye to the wonderful Ms Parmentier who has moved on to set up new exciting provision on behalf of Calcot Services for Children. We also say farewell to Lucy Birch and Carmen Angel who has worked with the young people here at Eton Dorney over the last year or so. We will miss them.

Whilst saying goodbye brings sadness, we wish to welcome some new wonderful staff to the Eton Dorney family; Oskar and Leah – Teaching Assistants and Saiqa – Office Administrator.

Warm regards,
Melissa Farnham
Headteacher

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Diary Dates: Term 1 - 2020	
Start of Term	Thursday 3rd September 2020
End of term	Friday 23rd October 2020
Holiday	26/10/2020 – 30/10/2020
Diary Dates: Term 2 - 2020	
Inset Day	Monday 2 nd November 2020 Inset Day – School Closed to Pupils
Start of Term	Tuesday 3 rd November 2020
End of Term	Friday 18th December 2020
Holiday	21/12/2020 – 01/01/2021

Beech Class News:

Beech class have adapted well this half term to working under the 'Recovery Curriculum'. The children and young people have been able to initially look at what they have achieved during 'Covid 19' and they created a positivity jar with all their positive comments such as, planting vegetables, zoom lessons, window decoration, baking, trying new foods, and football skills. The class have been able to practice their balance and O/T skills recording how long each pupil can complete each task for. They initially practiced estimating and then they were able to record the exact time.

They particularly enjoyed their topic 'Pancakes' during which they were able to taste a wide selection of topics and described how they tasted and which ones they enjoyed. They were able with support to record their answers on a tally chart and then onto a bar chart. They were able to use instructions as well as creating their own to make pancakes which were thin and thick. The children were able to use a variety of different foods on their pancakes to create a selection of emotions. As a class they worked as a team to create their own pancakes and taste tested them against shop brought pancakes. The result was a healthy debate as to which was better.

Information for Parents:

Website:

We are continuously adding new items to our website.

Please do take a look to see all new updates. Our School Improvement Plan and School Self Evaluation Form for 2019-2023 are now available for you to view as part of our Key Information.

<https://www.etondorneyspecialschool.co.uk/>

During uncertain times we endeavour to carry on with some normality.

