



Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back

This newsletter contains a full outline of everything that is planned for another action packed half term at Eastlea.

Clubs and activities

We continue to have a varied and well supported programme of clubs either before school, at lunchtime or after school. This half term the following clubs are taking place – many started this week and more start next week.

Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Breakfast Club (7.30 – 8.45am each day)	KS2 Professional football coaching for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Tuesdays	Maths SATs Booster club for Y6 on Tuesdays (<i>just for the next few weeks</i>)
English SATs Booster club for Y6 on Wednesdays (<i>just for the next few weeks</i>)	Rugby Rocket Tots for Reception/Year 1/Year 2 on Wednesdays	Steel Pans music club for Y3/Y4 on Tuesdays
Street Dance for KS2 on Thursdays from 8am	Woodland Walk club for various year groups on Wednesdays	Tennis club for Y3/Y4 on Tuesdays
Plus... Owlets toddler group for pre-school children and their parents/carers/childminders on Thursdays from 9am – 10.30am in the school hall	Running Club for Y4/Y5/Y6 on Thursdays	Cricket club for Y5/Y6 on Tuesdays
	Times Tables/Rock Stars club for various year groups on Thursdays	KS2 Singing Club for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Wednesdays
		Cycling club for Y5/Y6 on Wednesdays

Events planned for this half term

What's on	When and who?
Starting dates for new intake in Nursery	Tuesday 23 rd April
Football team coaching session	Tuesday 23 rd April (Year 5 and Year 4)
NSPCC 'Speak out, stay safe' assemblies	Wednesday 24 th April (Reception to Year 6)
Specialist KS2 French/music/computing input led by Mme Taylor, Ms Smith and Mrs Powells	Wednesday afternoons from 24 th April (Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6)
Year 5/4 football competition at CLV	After school on Wednesday 24 th April (team from Year 5 and Year 4)
Rugby coaching in PE lessons	Thursday afternoons from 25 th April (Year 6 and Year 4)
'Parents Drop In' sessions led by members of the Early Help team	Fortnightly from Thursday 25 th April 4.00 – 5.30pm (just come into school via the main entrance)
Attendance certificates, 'light green' letters and commendations are presented	Friday 26 th April
Year 6 Educational Visit to Nissan – 'Eco schools event'	Friday 26 th April – all day (Year 6)
Year 5/Year 6 Dance Academy sessions continue	After school on Friday 26 th April – for those pupils selected
KS1 SATs assessments	During May – these will form part of the overall teacher assessment judgement made by Eastlea staff (Year 2)

What's on	When and who?
Polling Station in Computer Suite for local elections – school open as usual	Thursday 2 nd May – Eastlea open as usual
Year 4 Rugby Festival	Afternoon of Thursday 2 nd May at CLV (Year 4)
Year 4 Tri golf competition at Seaton Sluice	Morning of Friday 3 rd May (team of pupils from Year 4)
NSPCC workshops (assembly follow up)	Afternoon of Friday 3 rd May (Year 5 and Year 6)
May Day Bank Holiday – school closed	Monday 6th May – school closed
Residential visit to Ford Castle	Tuesday 7th – Wednesday 8th April (group of pupils from Year 3/Year 4 plus 4 staff)
Balance Bike (Bikeability sessions)	Tuesday 7 th , Wednesday 8 th and Thursday 9 th May (Year 1)
Tennis coaching sessions	Tuesday afternoons on 7 th , 14 th and 21 st May (Year 3/Year 4 – those not at Ford will do the first session)
Early Years Educational Visit – part of summer term topic	Wednesday 8 th May – all day (Nursery and Reception)
First of the reading challenge gold awards presented	Friday 10 th May
'SATs Saturday' (A fun day to revise maths and English!)	Saturday 11 th May (Year 6)
KS2 SATs week	Monday 13 th – Thursday 16 th May (all Year 6 pupils – we wish them the very best of luck!)
Children's Cancer Run	Sunday 19 th May – Gosforth Park race course – a group of staff and Year 4/Year 5/Year 6 pupils take part in this annual charity event
Badminton 'taster' session at Concordia	Monday 20 th May – afternoon (Year 6)
Author visit from 'Liz Flanagan'	Wednesday 22 nd May – morning (Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6)
Tag Rugby School Games competitions	Wednesday 22 nd May (Morning = team from Year 4 at Astley Afternoon = team from Year 6 at Astley)
Possible Polling Station in Computer Suite for European elections – school open as usual	Thursday 23 rd May – Eastlea open as usual
Student Voice Conference at CLV for Year 6 'ambassadors'	Thursday 23 rd May – all day (2 x representatives chosen from Year 6)
Golden Day	Friday 24th May (all pupils who have followed our behaviour policy)
Pupils break up for half term	Friday 24 th May – normal 3.15pm finish
School reopens after the half term holiday	Monday 3 rd June

Uniform – PE kits and school shoes

There is a lot of sport planned for this term and hopefully with some better weather the PE sessions for most classes will be taking place outside. It is therefore important that pupils have their PE kits in school each week and this should include black shorts, plain white t-shirt and trainers. Plain dark tracksuits could also be brought to wear. It is very important that all PE kit is clearly labelled with your child's name – as this will save lots of delays and frustrations at the beginning of PE sessions!

Trainers can be worn for PE lessons/outdoor activities at breaks/lunchtimes, but black school shoes are required for the rest of the time in school. We have some children who are 'forgetting' their black school shoes. Please can you help to remind them!

Early Years/outdoor equipment

We have had some work done in recent weeks to further improve the outdoor play areas for Early Years (gravel pit and willow area) as well as additional fencing near the containers on the school yard. As I mentioned before the holiday, please can I remind parents that children should not be allowed to climb on/play with or access the outdoor play equipment either before school or at the end of a day when they are picked up from school. We realise it is 'tempting', but we are not insured for this and therefore the equipment is 'out of bounds' for all children (including school children) after 3pm and before school starts. Thank you for your support with this.

Cars, parking and supervision of pupils outside the gates

For those parents who drive to school, please can I take this opportunity to remind you about the importance of parking carefully around the vicinity of the school and being courteous to other road users and local residents. It is important not to block paths/driveways with cars, allow children to roam onto gardens of nearby houses or park on pavements as this can cause problems for those living near to the school and other pedestrians, especially when it makes it very difficult for them to get past safely. Thank you.

Punctuality and attendance

Here are the 'headlines' from last half term in terms of attendance and punctuality:

- The weekly attendance champions' trophy and punctuality plaque winners for the six weeks of the second half of the spring term are included in the table below:

Attendance (usually one winner per week, but can be shared)			Year 3 – twice		Year 5 – FIVE times	
Punctuality (often shared by 2 or 3 classes each week)	Reception – once	Year 2 – twice	Year 3 – FIVE times	Year 4 – twice	Year 5 – 4 times	Year 6 – 4 times

N.B. Year 1 did not win either the trophy or the plaque...something to aim for this term!

- Having won the trophy for 5 out of the 6 weeks, it was no surprise that **Year 5** won our overall award for the **best attendance** for the second half of the spring term – their average for the half term was 98.68% – well done!
- **Year 3** won the certificate for the **best punctuality** during the half term. They had only 3 'lates' recorded during the whole half term and won the plaque almost every week!!
- We also had a number of individuals from across the school who managed to maintain full attendance and excellent punctuality for a whole of the spring term. We had **41 pupils in total** who achieved this and they were **awarded with special certificates for 100% attendance in the spring term**. 10 of them are on track for a full year of 100% attendance having not missed a day in either the autumn or spring terms...good luck!!
- In terms of what is classed nationally as 'persistent absence' the number of pupils at Eastlea with **attendance below 90% is not very high – which we are pleased about**. There are only 8 pupils with less than 90% attendance out of the whole school. This is a great achievement and we are working with these families with the aim of reducing this figure even further!

Miss Betham (Year 2) and Mrs Stafford (Year 6) will be especially keen to encourage perfect punctuality and good attendance this half term as they embark on their 'Secret Agent Training' or SATs in May!

Eastlea School Lunches – new menus

The 'summer menus' for school lunches will be starting in a couple of weeks. We will keep you up-to-date with any alterations.

Sunny weather and sun cream

We have had some lovely sunny weather in recent weeks and are hoping for more in the days and weeks to come this term. As usual at this time of year, please can we ask that on sunny days, pupils come to school with sun cream applied and for younger pupils (30 hour Nursery and Reception) sun cream is brought to school to be reapplied ready for outdoor afternoon sessions. Thank you!

Yours sincerely

Miss E Beeston
Head Teacher