



# Eastlea update 5/2/21



Dear Parents / Carers,

The half term break is fast approaching with just one more week of what has been another very difficult lockdown period since the Christmas holiday. With a 'Golden Day' approaching, a possible 'online' catch up with classmates and a break from remote learning/school work on the horizon we are aiming to make sure the children have something to look forward to in the coming days.



## Virtual Golden Day – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Our countdown has continued and now we have just 5 school days to go before we celebrate **Chinese New Year** 'virtually' with everyone who wishes to get involved! Here is an outline of what is planned and suggestions of how you and your children can join in with the day:

- a **non-uniform day** for those in school – **wearing an item of red** (a lucky colour for the Chinese) may be an idea – and this is something you could do at home too!
- a **grid of possible Chinese New Year themed activities** will be shared on Seesaw/Tapestry by class teachers. Our aim is to provide some simple practical options which do not require lots of expensive resources and avoid the need to make non-essential visits to the shops. **Just join in with what you can** – if everyone did something that would be great and as many photos as possible can be uploaded to share on Seesaw/Tapestry!
- to help with this, some simple **paper based activity/resource packs** are being put together by staff for those who request them. *[Please let your child's class teacher know by Monday if you would like one and these can then be collected from school via the main entrance from Tuesday onwards.]*
- an **opportunity for the children to see their friends** via a virtual class meet up – see below!
- Plus...Mrs Powells has arranged for a **special video message** for all the children too...tune in on Golden Day to Tapestry/Seesaw to find out more!!



## Virtual 'class meet up'

As we explained last week we know how much the children are missing not seeing their friends and wanted to build in some kind of 'class meet up' for each year group. This has proved more tricky than we thought and I want to thank Miss Betham and those families who got involved to help us with a 'technical' run through earlier this week. The school Wi-Fi is running very slowly and this is causing us some difficulties when we have multiple people on 'camera'.

For Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February we still aim to try this – but **please accept our apologies in advance if it does not work too well!** In the future we may change how we go about this using a different 'platform', but having tested out both Google Meet and Zoom, the one which works best for our Wi-Fi at the moment is Zoom, so for next week we are going to try a short Zoom session for each class.

There are a few things to draw your attention to linked to this:

1. We have to follow certain procedures to ensure we keep everyone safe – see separate protocol document. **If your child chooses to join in, then this indicates to us that you are happy to abide by the protocols.**
2. Only take part if you feel you/your child want to – it is not compulsory!!
3. To support with children who are sharing a device at home we will schedule the zoom meetings at different times during the day on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> for each class.
4. Children who are in school that day will have the opportunity to see their classmates who are at home (as long as we can get the technology to work!)



In the meantime, please continue to look after yourselves, take care and stay safe!

Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher

