



Dear Parents/Carers,

The second half of the autumn term started successfully this week and this newsletter will share some important reminders as well as details of what we have planned for the 7 weeks run in to Christmas.

School Admissions for Reception 2024 – a reminder

For parents of pupils due to start in Reception next September please remember that the admissions portal opened on 1st November and closes on 15th January. Children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 should apply.

It is very important that you complete an application for a place as soon as possible. **Even if your child currently attends our Eastlea Nursery then you must make an admissions application for a place in Reception** September 2024. Here is the link to the portal where you can apply. First time users will need to register an account. http://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

If you require any help or need advice please call the school admissions team on 01670 624889 or contact Mrs Shimmin or Miss Beeston in school.

Behaviour Policy



Each year we review our behaviour policy and if any amendments are made then a revised copy is provided for all parents/carers. This year there have been no major changes to the systems we already have in place. The policy recognises the fact that we are continuing to embed the 'THRIVE' approach in school. THRIVE is a whole school approach to develop emotional resilience by supporting emotional and social development. All children will be supported using this approach as well as individual pupils receiving additional support. We know our school behaviour policy works successfully and is something which

receives a positive response from parents. The full policy is on our website and hard copies can be made available from the school office if required.

PE days for each class and uniform reminder

The current PE days for each class are as follows – if other activities are arranged you will be informed by class teachers if PE kit is required at other times:

- Reception – Friday
- Year 1 – Wednesday
- Year 2 – Wednesday and Friday
- Year 3 – Monday and Tuesday
- Year 4 – Thursday and Friday
- Year 5 – Tuesday and Friday
- Year 6 – Monday and Thursday

Remember that children are asked to come in their PE kit and trainers on 'PE days' ONLY– which could be one of the Eastlea tracksuits (including hoodies). Joggers should be plain, without lettering please.

Hoodies and trainers should **NOT** be worn on other days.

- Please can we remind everyone that uniform/hoodies/joggers/coats etc **must be named**. Unnamed uniform items can be very difficult to locate and return if they go missing. Your support with this is appreciated.
- As you know earrings cannot be worn in school. Transparent plastic spacers can be provided from the school office as a safer alternative for those who need them. Thank you.

*Remember that the **Hope Centre Uniform and baby bank** is available for collection of good quality school clothing (and they also welcome donations of pre-loved uniform too). **This service is FREE!** They can be contacted by email on: hope1uniform@gmail.com*

Parking

Please continue to park considerately without blocking roads/driveways and aim to use the 'park and stride' opportunity from the Church of Nazarene where possible to avoid congestion outside of school. This proved to be a more popular option during Active October and we would love it if this continued. Thank you!

Cramlington Foodbank – THANK YOU!

A letter from the organisers of the Foodbank was received in school this week thanking everyone in the Eastlea community for their generosity with the food and cash donations made the week before half term. A total of 375kg of food items was donated which is a huge amount and will be well used to support families who are most in need. Thank you!

Defibrillator – on site at Eastlea

At the staff training day before the half term break teachers/support staff/lunchtime supervisors had their latest Emergency First Aid training (something we do every 3 years). As part of this, staff have received training in the use of a defibrillator. We now have one on site at Eastlea should it ever be necessary.



Rocksteady bands – music tuition on Tuesday mornings

Following the ‘assembly’ and workshops which took place in the week before half term, several more families have signed children up to join our popular Rocksteady groups led by band leader Nathan. There are still some spaces for budding guitarists, bass players, drummers, keyboard players or vocalists if anyone else wants to sign up. There is a monthly payment for this and you can find out more details direct from Rocksteady via telephone on **0330 113 0330** or at the following link: <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>



Parent Governor – vacancies

We continue to be in the fortunate position of having a very supportive Governing Body at Eastlea. There are 4 parents represented on this group and two of them are just coming to the end of their ‘term of office’. At the Full Governing Body meeting before half term both **Ms Katrina McDonough** (parent of Noah and ex pupil Holly) and **Mrs Sam McKeown** (parent of ex pupils Max and Alyssa) expressed their willingness to continue in their role of parent governor for another 4 years. Parent governors are elected by the parents and so before this can happen, I need to ask whether there are any other parents of current or ex pupils who would be willing to stand for this role. If anyone else also puts themselves forward then an election will be arranged in the coming weeks. **Please could you let me know by Friday 20th November.**

In terms of a time commitment, there are 3 full governing body meetings each year (which are usually held on Wednesday evenings) and some further committee meetings which also take place after school hours. If this is something you would consider taking on and wish to find out more about then please come and talk to me/ring me in school. This is an important role for anyone who wishes to get involved in this different ‘aspect’ of the life of Eastlea. Thank you!

Clubs and events for this half term

We have an action-packed programme of clubs for this half term and most letters about these have been sent out already. Letters for clubs starting later this month will be sent out nearer the time.

Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Breakfast Club (7.30 – 8.45am each day). <i>N.B. Pupils to arrive between 7.30 – 8.15am to allow time for breakfast to be served.</i>  This costs £2.50 per day and money must be paid on the day or in advance. Where possible please BOOK a place for your child in breakfast a week in advance – this can be done by contacting the office.	KS2 Professional football coaching for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Tuesdays <i>(£2 per session)</i>	Christmas Craft Club for a group of Y1/Y2 on Mondays for 3 weeks from 27 th November Gymnastics club for Y3/Y4 on Tuesdays Bike club for Y5/Y6 on Tuesdays for 4 weeks from 14 th November
Street Dance Club for Y1/Y2 on Wednesdays from 8am in the school hall	KS1 Professional football coaching on Wednesdays <i>(£2 per session)</i> Woodland Walk club for a different year group each week on Wednesdays	Singing Club for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Wednesdays Violins Progression lessons for group of Y5/Y6 on Wednesdays
Owlets toddler group for pre-school children and their parents/carers/childminders: Thursdays 9.00 – 10.30am in the school hall <i>Sessions cost £3.00 plus 50p per extra child.</i> 	Running Club for Y4, Y5/Y6 on a rota basis on Fridays	Basketball club for Y5/Y6 on Thursdays

Events for this half term

The list below contains outline details of what is in the diary so far for the coming weeks including dates for the Christmas events. Further information will be shared about certain activities nearer the time:

What's on	When and who?
Poppies for sale for Royal British Legion	From Monday 6 th – Friday 10 th November
Author visit (Chris Smith) at CLV	Morning of Monday 6 th November – Y5/Y6
Assembly led by Revd Wullie Docherty	Afternoon of Monday 6 th November – Reception to Year 6
Specialist language tuition (Spanish and French)	Monday afternoons for Y3 from Monday 6 th November Wednesday afternoons for Y4/Y6 from 8 th November
Rocksteady class band sessions	Continuing on Tuesday mornings from 7 th November (class bands from various year groups)
'Bringing Words to Life' writing project	Wednesday mornings in November for a group of Y5/Y6
Gymnastics coaching in PE lessons	Wednesday afternoons from 8 th November (Y1/Y2)
Ball skills / Handball / Rugby coaching in PE lessons	Tuesday afternoons from 7 th November (Y3/Y5) Thursday afternoons from 9 th November (Y4/Y6)
Specialist Music tuition	Wednesday afternoons for Reception/Y1/Y4/Y5/Y6 from 8 th November led by Mrs Midgley and Mrs Hedley
Live online Remembrance assembly	Friday 10 th November (Y5 and Y6)
British Sign Language workshops	Friday 10 th November (Y2/Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6)
First Aid workshops	Friday afternoons from 10 th November for Y6
Friendship week – "Make a noise about bullying"	w/b Monday 13th November including Odd Socks Day...see separate letter
Maths – 'shape' focus plus TTRS 'England Rocks' battle!	w/b Monday 13 th November
Writers workshop at Shanklea Primary	Tuesday 14 th November – group of Y5/Y6 pupils
Sainsbury's/CLV Food technology challenge	Thursday 16 th November for Y6
Children in Need 'Pennies for Pudsey' fundraising event	Friday 17th November – whole school [Pudsey dress up day... see separate letter ...please bring in coins]
Grassroots Gymnastics 'taster day' hosted at Eastlea (10am – 2pm) [see separate flyer with further details and booking information]	Saturday 18 th November (Reception to Year 6) <i>bookings can be made direct with Grassroots on this link:</i> https://www.grassrootssports.co.uk/courses/gymnastics-day-cramlington-18-11-23/
Presentation of autumn term Writing awards	Wednesday 29 th November
Non-uniform day to bring in raffle prizes for the Christmas Fair	Friday 1st December – whole school
Presentation of first of our Bronze Planets reading challenge awards	Friday 1 st December
Thunder in the Valley basketball tournament and visit to Newcastle Eagles match	Friday 1 st December – after school/evening (team from Y5/Y6 and KS2 children/families)
Presentation of autumn term Maths Awards	Monday 4 th December
Early Years Christmas workshops for parents/carers and pupils	Monday 4 th December at 2.30pm (Reception) Wednesday 6 th December at 9am (Nursery)

What's on	When and who?
Rocksteady class bands concert	9.10am Tuesday 5 th December (whole school plus parents/carers of children involved)
Year 6 prepare a Festive meal for a guest	1.45pm on Tuesday 5 th December – <i>more details to follow</i>
Visits for new Nursery pupils who are due to start in January	Tuesday 5 th December (after school) <i>[separate details will be shared with these families]</i>
OWLETS toddler group Christmas party	Thursday 7 th December from 9.00 – 10.30am
Christmas Fair... and Eastlea Christmas Jumper day	<u>THURSDAY 7th December 3.15pm – 4.45pm</u> <i>[more details to follow]</i>
Scholastic Book Fair in school	w/b Monday 11 th December – <i>more details to follow</i>
Heights and Weights checks	Afternoon of Tuesday 12 th December (Reception and Y6) - <i>separate letter with information about this will be shared with parents of children in these classes</i>
Vision screening checks	Afternoon of Wednesday 13 th December (Reception)
KS2 Singing Club and Violin group mini concert	3.45pm on Wednesday 13 th December – <i>for parents of children involved in these clubs</i>
Christmas productions <i>(These are proposed times – there will be further details and ticket orders sent out nearer the time!)</i>	Nursery/Reception: Thursday 14 th December (9.30am) Year 1/Year 2: Thursday 14 th December (1.30pm) and Friday 15 th December (9.30am) Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6: Thursday 14 th December (2.15pm) and Friday 15 th December (10.15am)
RE Theme day - Christmas	Monday 18 th December (whole school) – including workshops at the Church of the Nazarene
Christmas parties <i>[more details to follow...we will be asking for a £1 donation per child to fund refreshments]</i>	Afternoon of Friday 15 th December for Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 and Morning of Tuesday 19 th December for Nursery and Afternoon of Tuesday 19 th December for Reception, Y1 and Y2
Christmas lunch for pupils <i>(Further details of menu nearer the time)</i>	Tuesday 19th December
GOLDEN DAY	Thursday 21st December
Start of the Eastlea Christmas holiday – <i>please note the earlier finish time</i>	<u>1PM</u> on Friday 22 nd December
Staff Training Day	Monday 8 th January 2024
Pupils return for the spring term	Tuesday 9 th January 2024

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Beeston
Head Teacher