



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back for the second half of the autumn term. I hope everyone had a good half term break and are ready for the seven school weeks which take us up to Christmas!

Parents' appointments

Thank you for your tremendous support at the parent appointments which took place this week. Staff still have some parents to see and I know that catch up appointments are being arranged for the coming days. It is always very important to see everyone at this stage of the year – and once again your support is much appreciated.

Update on events before half term:

- **Circus Reading Challenge** – this got off to a flying start last half term and the vast majority of pupils are well on their way towards their bronze award. Any half term reading will count towards the 5th step on the bronze award and we hope to present the first bronze awards in December. If your child is not yet in a good reading routine – it is not too late to get started!
- **'Welly Walk'** – I hope you saw the coverage in the local press following our 'welly walk' fundraising campaign for Farm Africa. We managed to raise £170 for charity and were awarded a certificate for completing 400 welly miles ...even though these were done inside the building rather than on route to church due to the poor weather!
- **Spooky Ball Year 5 enterprise project** – Year 5 did a great job of coordinating 2 Spooky Ball events just before the holiday. The hall was transformed into a suitably spooky venue and the costumes were superb! The photos on the school website are well worth a look!
- **School Games GOLD kitemark** – As I hope you saw in the press just before the half term, we were delighted to be awarded with the gold kitemark for the Sainsbury's School games for 2013-14. **This is a huge achievement as we are one of only a handful of schools in the whole county to have achieved this award.** It is once again thanks to the successful coordination of PE by Mrs Merryweather, the dedication of all staff who are prepared to take pupils out of school during the day and in the evening, and the enthusiasm of our pupils and sports leaders that we have gained this recognition.



Sport remains high on our agenda for this year as we aim to retain this prestigious gold award – and we endeavour to encourage as many pupils as possible to take part in a variety of events – class festivals, whole school workshops, before/during/after school clubs and team competitions. Look out for key forthcoming sporting events in our events calendar below!

PE kits

In light of our strong focus on PE/Sport, can I take this opportunity to emphasise how important it is for the children to have a PE kit in school during the week so that whenever PE lessons/sports coaching sessions occur, the children are suitably prepared for their lessons. We have had some difficulties lately with children not having their kit in school and this has meant that they have been unable to take part in planned activities which is upsetting for them and concerning for staff. Your support with this is appreciated.

School lunches – new menus

Eastlea school lunches continue to be popular! The new winter menus will be starting from Monday (week 1 = w/b10th November). Copies of the menus are attached to this newsletter for reference as we know how valuable parents find these to plan ahead for when their children want school dinners.

Please can we remind everyone that all lunch money (£2.20 per day/£11.00 per week) for pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 must be paid by first thing on Friday in the week that the meals are eaten to enable the money to be 'balanced'. Unfortunately we still occasionally have some issues with non-payment of dinner money and as a result some families have had to be advised that they will no longer be able to have school lunches and the issue of repayment is then passed to Northumberland County Council.

Let's Grow vouchers

Let's Grow vouchers stopped being issued from Morrisons stores on 26th October. We still have the collecting box available in the library– so please send in any remaining vouchers that you may have in the next few days. Thank you!

Attendance and punctuality

In support of our continuing drive to improve attendance and punctuality the 'weekly attendance champions' trophy and 'punctuality' plaque are awarded each week with great excitement! We are continuing to have real success in terms of encouraging good punctuality and attendance at Eastlea. I hope you will be interested in the following 'headlines' from the first half of the autumn term:

Attendance (One winner per week)		Year 1 – once	Year 2 – once	Year 3 – once	Year 4 – twice	Year 6 – 3 times
Punctuality (often shared by 2 or 3 classes each week)	Reception once			Year 3 – 4 times	Year 4 – 3 times	Year 6 – 3 times

Year 5 have yet to win either trophy – something to aim for this half term!

The 'party poppers' were only used once to celebrate a class gaining their target of 100% attendance – well done to Year 1! I hope we can use them more this half term as well!!

- **Year 4** won our overall award for the **best attendance** for the first half of the autumn term – in total they won the weekly trophy twice – and their average for the half term was 97.91% – well done!
- **Year 4** were also awarded with the certificate for the **best punctuality** during the half term – only 8 'lates' were recorded in total for this class during the half term – very good!
- We have plenty of pupils who are on track to gain individual 100% attendance certificates for the autumn term – and I hope they have a healthy seven weeks in the run up to the Christmas holiday!

Children whose percentage attendance falls below 85% are classified by the government as 'persistent absentees' and separate letters have been sent to families of those individuals who fell below this figure in the first half of the autumn term. Letters were also sent to alert families whose children have below 90% attendance so that the issue of 'persistent absence' does not arise.

Peanut allergy

Please note that in future the school must be peanut-free. This includes the school kitchen and all packed lunches/food brought in from home. You will understand that this is to secure the well-being of a child with a recently diagnosed allergy. I hope this will not prove to be too inconvenient.

Events planned for this half term – including advance notice of some Christmas dates...as we are aware how important it is to get these key dates in the diary!

What's on	When and who?
Class educational visit to Bede's World	Tuesday 4 th November (Year 4)
Final Basketball coaching session	Tuesday 4 th November (Year 5)
Library skills sessions	Tuesday 4 th November (Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6)
Lunchtime 'Professional football coaching'	Tuesday lunchtimes from 4 th November for 6 sessions (Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6)
Fiddles project – class tuition	Continuing on Wednesday afternoons from 5 th November (Year 3 and Year 4 pupils with Mr Knox)
After school 'Eastlea Singing club'	Continuing from Wednesday 5 th November for 6 weeks (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)
Before school 'Street Dance' club	Thursday mornings from 6 th November - 8am (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6)
Running club	Thursday lunchtimes from 6 th November (Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6)
Art workshop led by Cramlington artist Daniel Wetheritt	Friday 7 th November (Year 4)
Remembrance Centenary event	Tuesday 11 th November (whole school)
Indoor Sportshall Athletics competition at Concordia	Wednesday 12 th November - morning (Group from Year 5/Year 6)

What's on	When and who?
Fire Brigade visit school as part of curriculum work in KS1	Wednesday 12 th November – morning (Year 1)
Hoops for health basketball tournament at Blyth Sports Centre	Thursday 13 th November – all day (two teams of 8 pupils from Year 5)
Children in Need Day - Pennies for Pudsey coordinated by the 'Friends of Eastlea'	Sports gear/PE kit (non-uniform day) Friday 14 th November – morning 'Pennies for Pudsey' Friday 14 th November – afternoon 'Peter Bakare' <i>(further details/sponsor forms have already been sent out!!)</i>
Sports for Schools Sponsored event including visit of Olympic Volleyball player Peter Bakare	
Friendship week	Week beginning Monday 17 th November (activities coordinated by Brainwaves)
Educational visit to Toby Carvery	Tuesday 18 th November (Year 6)
Educational visit to Woodhorn Colliery	Wednesday 19 th November (Year 5)
After school KS1 Christmas Craft Club	Wednesday 19 th and 26 th November and Monday 1 st December (group of pupils from Year 1 and Year 2)
Hula Hooping festival at Blyth Sports Centre	Friday 21 st November - morning (Year 3)
Skipping workshops	Monday 24 th November (Reception to Year 6)
Non-uniform day – bring in prizes for the tombola stall at the Christmas Fair	Friday 28th November (all pupils)
Presentation of autumn term writing awards	Monday 1 st December
Nursery new intake visit	Tuesday 2 nd December: 9.00 – 10.00am (Nursery pupils due to start in January)
Racket skills sports festival	Wednesday 3 rd December – afternoon (Year 4)
'FROZEN' Year 6 Enterprise film club fundraising event	Wednesday 3 rd December – after school (further details will follow nearer the time)
<i>Carol singing and fundraising 'bag pack' at ASDA/Sainsbury's?</i>	<i>Dates to be confirmed in December (Year 6)</i>
Eastlea Christmas Fair Coordinated by the 'Friends of Eastlea'	Friday 5th December 3.15pm – 4.45pm
Scholastic Book Fair delivered to school	w/b Monday 8th December – parents welcome to come in and have a look/place orders
Brief 'Fiddles' concert <i>(provisional – will be confirmed nearer the time)</i>	Wednesday 10 th December – 2.40pm? (Year 3 and Year 4 pupils)
Christmas productions <i>(Further details and ticket orders nearer the time!)</i>	Nursery/Reception: Thursday 11 th December (9.30am) Year 1/Year 2: Thursday 11 th December (1.45pm) and Friday 12 th December (9.30am) Yr 3/Yr 4/Yr 5/Yr 6: Thursday 11 th December (2.30pm) and Friday 12 th December (10.15am)
Cramlington 'Big Christmas Sing' at CLV	Friday 12 th December – afternoon (KS2 Singing club – parents/carers invited to attend this event – which includes performance and refreshments – more details to follow nearer the time)

What's on	When and who?
Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas party	Monday 15 th December – afternoon (further details to follow)
Presentation of autumn term maths awards	Tuesday 16 th December
Christmas lunch (Further details of cost and menu soon)	Tuesday 16 th December
'Holly and the Ivy' performance – we welcome back Laura, David and Stewart from the SAGE	Tuesday 16 th December (afternoon)
Nursery and Reception Christmas party	Wednesday 17 th December – morning (further details to follow)
Christmas carol singing at Hartford Court care home	Morning of Wednesday 17 th December (KS2 Singing Club members)
Christmas Carol Service at St Nicholas' church	Wednesday 17 th December at 2pm (Reception to Year 6 – parents/carers welcome to join us)
Golden Day	Thursday 18th December (all pupils who have followed our behaviour policy)
KS2 Christmas parties	Friday 19 th December – morning (class based events for Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6)
School closes for the Christmas holiday Early finish at 2pm	Friday 20 th December (early finish at 2pm)
School reopens for the spring term	Tuesday 6th January 2014 (N.B. Staff training day on Monday 5 th January)

Yours sincerely,
E Beeston

Miss E Beeston
Head Teacher

WINTER MENU 2014

EASTLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEK ONE



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course Choices	<u>Pasta Master</u> • tuna mayonnaise • sausage and bean • BBQ chicken	Cottage Pie	Roast Turkey & Stuffing with Roast Potatoes	Spaghetti Bolognese with Garlic Bread	Fish Fingers or salmon with Chips
Vegetables	Peas	Carrots Broccoli Florets	Medley of Mixed Vegetables Cauliflower	Green Beans Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Garden Peas
Salad Bowl	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad
Starters or Sweets	Biscuit and milk shake	Homemade Fruity Flapjack	Banana Cake / Muffin with Glass of Milk	Homemade soup starter OR Warm Winter Salad with Custard	Fruit Dessert Whip



Week Commencing: 10/11/14 - 1/12/14 - 22/12/14 - 12/1/15 - 9/2/15 - 2/3/15 - 23/3/15 - 13/4/15

* Freshly Prepared Homemade Dish

* Vegetable and Fruit in season

Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt available daily



WINTER MENU 2014

EASTLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEK TWO



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course Choices	Pasta Master <ul style="list-style-type: none"> tuna mayonnaise sausage and bean Chicken curry 	Sausage & Yorkshire Pudding with Homemade Gravy	Roast Chicken Breast Sage & Onion Stuffing with Roast Potatoes 	Chicken Curry with Wholemeal Rice 	Homemade Vegetable Pizza with Chips
Vegetables	Sweetcorn	Cauliflower Broccoli	Carrots Green Beans	Sweetcorn Peas	Baked Beans Garden Peas
Salad Bar	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad
Starters or Sweets	Cheesecake	Rice Pudding with Mandarin Oranges	Fruity Oaty Biscuit	Chocolate Surprise Cake with Topping & Glass of Orange Juice	Apple & Carrot Muffin with Glass of Milk



Week Commencing: 17/11/14 - 8/12/14 - 28/12/14 - 18/1/15 - 18/2/15 - 8/3/15 - 30/3/15 - 20/4/15

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* Vegetable and Fruit in season

Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt available daily



WINTER MENU 2014

EASTLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEK THREE



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course Choices	Pasta Master <ul style="list-style-type: none"> tuna mayonnaise sausage and bean Bolognese 	Savoury Minced Beef & Dumpling 	Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding 	Chicken Fajitas and rice 	Sausage with Chips
Vegetables	Garden Peas	Cabbage Carrots	Mixed Vegetables Broccoli Florets	Roasted Root Vegetables Cauliflower	Garden Peas Baked Beans
Salad Bar	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad	Seasonal Salad
Starters or Sweets	Brownie and milkshake	Oaty Biscuit with Slice of Apple	Fruity Cheese Cake	Sponge with Custard	Chocolate Crunch Slice with Glass of Milk



Week Commencing: 24/11/14 - 15/12/14 - 5/1/15 - 26/1/15 - 2/2/15 - 23/2/15 - 16/3/15 - 7/4/15

* Freshly Prepared Homemade Dish

* Vegetable and Fruit in season

Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt available daily

