





Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back for the new half term. Please find below an outline list of the events and activities which are planned for the children this half term:

What's on	When and who?
Weekly swimming sessions	Monday afternoons from 26 th February to 25 th March (Y4)
NUFC Foundation football / team games sessions	Afternoons of Monday 26 th February / Monday 4 th March (Y3/Y5)
Family Hub PEEP Early Years workshops	Monday afternoons from 26 th February (Group of Nursery families)
Specialist Spanish tuition from CLV staff	Monday afternoons from 26 th February (Y3)
'Rocksteady' class bands	Tuesday mornings from 27 th February (including concert for pupils/parents on 26 th March)
STEM Communities 'Mining and Mars' workshops led by Liz Ferguson and Joe Shimwell	Morning of Wednesday 28 th February (Y5/Y6)
Net games / badminton / tennis coaching in PE lessons	Tuesday afternoons from 28 th February (Year 3/Year 6) Thursday afternoons from 29 th February (Year 5 and Year 3 from 14 th March)
Specialist French tuition led by Mme Taylor	Wednesday afternoons from 28 th February for Y4/Y5/Y6
Specialist Music tuition	Wednesday afternoons for Reception/Y1/Y4/Y5/Y6 from 28 th February led by Miss Midgley and Mrs Hedley
Sending & receiving and Invasion games coaching in PE lessons	Wednesday afternoons from 28 th February (Y1/Y2)
Cricket coaching sessions	Fridays from 1 st March (Y1/Y2/Y4/Y6)
Spring term Full Governing Body meeting	4.30pm on Wednesday 6 th March
Eastlea World Book Day (see separate letter)	<u>Thursday 7th March</u> – book at bedtime/pjs day (whole school)
National Football day (planned and arranged by the Y6 Sport Organising Crew)	Friday 8 th March (whole school)
STEM Communities 'Mining and Mars' FAMILY workshops led by Liz Ferguson and Joe Shimwell	A choice of 2pm Monday 11 th March or 9am Wednesday 13 th March (Y5/Y6 children & families – see separate invitation)
Induction visits for new Nursery starters	After school on Tuesday 12 th March (pupils due to start Nursery after Easter)
Comic Relief Day (separate letter to be shared this week)	Friday 15th March – wear something red and make a donation for a break time treat!
Irish Dancing taster sessions	Afternoon of Monday 18 th March
RE Theme Day	Thursday 21 st March
Aim High Writers workshop at Shanklea	Thursday 21 st March (Group of Y3 / Y4 pupils)
Y5 Skipping competition at Newbiggin	Morning of Friday 22 nd March (group from Y5)
School Games Live Fitness sessions	Morning of Friday 22 nd March
Presentation of spring term writing/maths awards	Week beginning Monday 25 th March
End of spring term parent appointments	Afternoon/evening of Monday 25th and afternoon of Tuesday 26th March
Golden Day	Thursday 28th March
Easter chocolate raffle	Thursday 28 th March
Pupils break up for Easter	Thursday 28 th March – at 2pm
School reopens after the Easter holiday	Monday 15th April 2024

Clubs for this half term:

Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Breakfast Club (7.30 – 8.45am each day). This costs £2.50 per day. 	KS2 Professional football coaching for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Tuesdays (£2 per session)	NUFC Foundation Family Fitness club (Y1 to Y4) – <i>last two</i> Monday sessions
		Y5/Y6 Gardening Club on Mondays
		Multi-skills Club for Reception on Tuesdays
		Munchie Maths Club for Y6 on Tuesdays
Bacon Butty Literacy Booster for Y6 on Wednesdays from 8am	Professional football coaching for Y1/Y2 on Wednesdays (£2 per session)	Singing Club for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Wednesdays
Street Dance Club for Y1/Y2 on Wednesdays from 8am in the school hall	Woodland Walk club for a different year group each week on Wednesdays	Violin Progression lessons for group of Y4/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	'Net games' club for Y5/Y6 on Thursdays

Parking

As you know, in common with most other schools, it can be very busy in the streets surrounding Eastlea at school drop off and collection times. This can cause frustration to both parents /carers as well as local residents at these 'peak times', especially if their driveways are blocked or cars are parked on dropped kerbs etc. It has also been made worse recently by the ongoing 'works' which have been taking place on the estate.



We regularly provide updates about this in our school newsletters and I want to thank everyone who tries to park a little further away from the school in order to keep congestion down where possible.

As a reminder, the following alternatives can be used where possible to help to ease congestion...

- As the weather improves in the spring term, could those from nearer the school opt to walk, 'scoot' or cycle to school instead? I know the children that do this already love to bring their bikes or scooters to school and there is space on our bike/scooter racks for more.
 - For those who travel further to Eastlea and have to come by car, how about opting for the 'park and stride' which we offer from the Church of the Nazarene which is a very easy alternative to avoid congestion at the gates. The 3 minute walk from the carpark is straightforward and is well worth a try!
- THANK YOU!

Reading books and water bottles

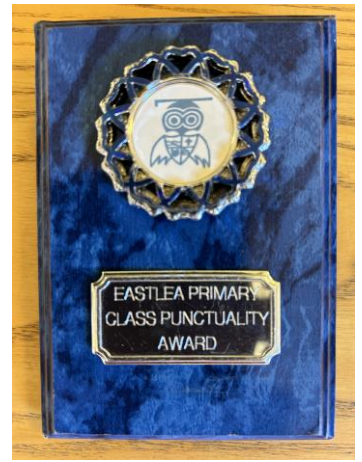
The children have been reminded to take extra care with school reading books which are brought home each week for them to read. We have had a few books recently which have been damaged due to water bottles being kept in reading folders which then leak and ruin the books. These then have to be paid for to be replaced. Your support with this would be much appreciated!

Punctuality

At our weekly celebration assembly first thing on a Friday morning one of the things we always talk about is attendance from the previous week. The children are very excited when their class wins the attendance trophy and they love it when we 'beat' our total of 'lates' by reducing it from the week before.

Punctuality plaques are awarded to any class who have no lates recorded or if their punctuality is better than the previous week.

Before half term we seemed to be having more children arriving late in the mornings and as part of our push to improve attendance/punctuality we ask for your support to encourage your children to get into school promptly in the mornings. Thank you!



Thank you from the Gardening Club

Miss Fox has asked me to pass on her thanks for the generous donations of gardening equipment in the last few weeks. Our gardening club restarts on Monday and I know that good use will be made of the items which have been donated.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher