



Eastlea update 26/2/21

...one week to full reopening!!

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am absolutely delighted that **as from Monday 8th March we will be able to welcome back ALL pupils in ALL classes** with no rotas, no phased entry and no part time timetables! It will feel great to have everyone back and allow us to at least make a start on the slow journey towards a semblance of normality. I'm sure you all feel the same!!



Plans for 8th March

The systems we had in place at Eastlea in September will resume as they are tried and tested and seemed to work effectively to keep everyone safe in school. **A reminder of the main items is included in a separate document and we ask that you take time to read this so that you are aware of the systems which will be in place.** Arrival and departure times for the different year groups will be as follows (*with the usual amendments for those families who have children in more than one year group/key stage*).

Year group(s)	Arrival time	Departure time	Gate
Year 5 and Year 6	8.45am	3.15pm	Main
Year 3 and Year 4	8.45am	3.15pm	Side
Year 1 and Year 2	9.00am	3.00pm	Side
Reception	9.00am	3.00pm	Main
Nursery (full days)	8.45am	3.00pm	Main
Nursery (mornings)	8.45am	11.45am	Main
Nursery (afternoons)	12.20pm	3.20pm	Main

We must ask again that parents/pupils do not linger on site at drop off and collection times, only one adult should come onto site with a child, children should stand WITH their parent/carer, face coverings must be worn and there should be no gathering at the school gates – THANK YOU!

Remote learning

Online/remote learning will continue to be provided by your child's class teacher for the coming week (w/b 1st March), but after this it will cease. As from Monday 8th March all children will be in school, so other than usual homework routines, work will be done in school. Remote learning will only be necessary again if a child has to self-isolate from school due to a Covid infection.

If your child has been using one of the DfE laptops which were loaned out during lockdown we need to ask that this is returned to school (with the case and power leads) so that the devices can be used to support learning in school.

School uniform

For those who have not been in school since December, next week may be a good time to check that you have the school uniform you require and it still fits!! If you require any new sweatshirts, cardigans etc then we have plenty in stock. **Can we ask that you ring the school office from Monday to let us know anything you require then we can arrange to have this ready for you to pop in to pay and collect one day next week.** Alternatively if you ring the Hope Centre (01670 737808) and ask for Joyce Docherty, she may be able help with uniform requests.

What to bring to school

As we did last term, our aim is to reduce the amount of items being transported between home and school. Your child must bring a water bottle, hand sanitiser if they have one and a coat/appropriate footwear. They are allowed to bring in their reading folder, PE kit and school bag but should not have pencil cases or other toys/personal items please.

School lunches

The 'Hungry Hatch' will continue to serve school meals as usual from Monday 8th. The menus are the same as before Christmas (for now) and it will be **Week 3** to start with. Meals are still £2.30 per day (£2 for Nursery). There may be some slight variations to the menu but we will do our best to offer the same range of choices as before.

Today we are saying goodbye to Mrs Dexter who has served behind the hatch as a kitchen assistant for many years at Eastlea – she is retiring from this role and we wish her well in the new ventures she is pursuing! As from Monday 1st March we will be welcoming Miss Davis to the catering team – and she will join Ms Williams (cook) and Miss Hogg (kitchen assistant) in providing meals for the children each day.



Clubs, events and activities

Our aim will be to get started with as full a programme of events and activities for the children as we can when we all the children return.

More information will be shared about the clubs on offer this in the coming weeks but if it helps you to plan in advance, our **Breakfast Club** will continue to be available each morning from 7.30am for those who require it at a cost of £2.50 per day. Children who attend this club are based in the library and are catered for in their class bubbles as we have plenty of space, overseen by Miss Pickard and Mrs Wilkinson. The children involved always seem to have a great time!

Reading awards and World Book Day

- **Congratulations to all our Rainbow Reading Challenge silver award winners** who will receive a 'virtual' certificate today! It is amazing to think that despite the global pandemic, Eastlea pupils have kept on reading and we have **over 120** children who have got this award today! A 'real' certificate and special badge will be presented to them all when we are back in school.
- We will be celebrating **World Book Day on Thursday 4th March** as part of our last week of remote learning. Most children will therefore be at home and for obvious reasons it is not appropriate this year for us have our usual pyjama/book at bedtime dress up day. For those in school it will be uniform as usual. However, there will be online activities/class learning on that day which will be focused on books and reading! Vouchers for money off books will be distributed via links on Seesaw/Tapestry and **we also have a challenge to set you on the day...**so watch out for more details from your child's teacher next week! A bit of fun to end lockdown and to bring a smile on our return to school the following week!!

And finally... a reminder

Although we are all delighted to be returning to school, we need to remember that this is just the first step of the 'road map' out of national lockdown and there is still a long way to go. We must remember that it is the threat from Covid is not over and it is vital that we protect each other and keep safe. A big part of this is limiting social contact with anyone who is not in your household or support bubble. **As the children return to school in larger numbers we will do our best to keep the mixing between bubbles to a minimum and ask that you do the same – this will help to keep us all as safe as possible. THANK YOU!**

If you feel you need more information about the full return to school or we can help in any way then please let us know and until then stay safe and keep smiling!

Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher

