



Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to everyone as we start the second half of the school year. This newsletter outlines all the many things that are underway and planned for the coming weeks – please retain for future reference!

Clubs and activities

We continue to have a varied and well supported programme of clubs either before school, at lunchtime or after school. This half term the following clubs are taking place – most of which started this week.

Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Breakfast Club (7.30 – 8.45am each day – £2.50 per child per day)	KS2 Professional football coaching for Y3/Y5/Y6 on Tuesdays	Netball club for Y5/Y6 on Mondays
English SATs Booster club for Y6 on Wednesdays	Rugby Rocket Tots for Reception/Year 1/Year 2 on Wednesdays	Maths SATs Booster club for Y6 on Tuesdays
Street Dance for KS2 on Thursdays from 8am	Woodland Walk club for various year groups on Wednesdays	Gymnastics club for Rec/Y1/Y2 on Tuesdays
Catch up swimming sessions for a group of Y5 at Concordia on Thursdays from 8am	Running Club for Y4/Y5/Y6 on Thursdays	KS2 Singing Club for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Wednesdays
Plus... Owlets toddler group for pre-school children and their parents/carers/childminders on Thursdays from 9am – 10.30am in the school hall	Lacemaking club for Y6 on Thursdays	Badminton club for Y6 on Thursdays for 3 sessions [27 th February, 19 th March, 2 nd April]
Plus...Times Tables Rockstars or Spelling Shed tasks can also be done at lunchtimes when needed!		

Events planned for this half term

Here is an outline of all the many events and activities which have been planned for the Eastlea pupils so far for the first half of the spring term.

What's on	When and who?
Assembly led by Revd Wullie Docherty	Monday 24 th February [rescheduled from last half term] (Reception to Year 6)
Educational visit to Newcastle Castle	Tuesday 25 th February – all day (Year 2)
Swimming sessions at Concordia (the 2nd half term of lessons for Year 4)	Tuesday afternoons from 25 th February until 31 st March (Year 4)
PSHE/Operation Encompass the next steps workshop	Afternoon of Tuesday 25 th February (Year 1)
Tennis/rugby/hockey coaching in PE lessons	Tuesday afternoons from 25 th February (Year 3/Year 5)
'Rocksteady' music showcase assembly and follow up workshop [a letter with more information will come out about this next week]	Mornings of Wednesday 26th February and Monday 2nd March (Reception to Year 6)
Specialist KS2 French/music/computing input led by Mme Taylor, Ms Smith and Mr Swan/Mrs Powells	Wednesday afternoons from 26 th February (Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6)

What's on	When and who?
Dance coaching in PE lessons	Thursday afternoons from 27 th February (Year 2/Year 5)
Rugby/hockey coaching in PE lessons	Thursday afternoons from 27 th February (Year 3/Year 6)
Parenting Drop In sessions led by county Early Help team	Fortnightly on Thursdays in the Computer Suite 4.00 – 5.30pm (27 th Feb, 12 th Mar, 26 th Mar)
Class attendance/punctuality certificates and 'light green' letters are presented	Friday 28 th February
First of the Computer themed reading challenge silver awards presented	Friday 28 th February
Hoopstarz festival at Killingworth Lakeside Centre	Morning of Friday 28 th February (Year 3)
Pilates coaching in PE lessons	Friday afternoons from 28 th February (Year 4/Year 6)
Educational visit to Newcastle – train ride, quayside and Laing art gallery	Tuesday 3 rd March – all day [5pm return] (Year 5/Year 6)
School Games Year 6 hockey competition	After school on Thursday 5 th March at CLV (2 x teams of players from Y6)
Eastlea plays host to the local Rainbows/Brownies/Guides 'Thinking Day' event	Evening of Thursday 5 th March in the school hall
World Book Day <i>(dress up in pyjamas and bring your favourite 'book at bedtime' – see earlier letter for more details!)</i>	Friday 6th March Non-uniform day for the whole school – £1 'fine' to go towards our author visits!
Author visit to Cragside Primary to meet Julie Pike	Morning of Friday 6 th March (Year 4/Year 5)
Vocal workshop in Morpeth (part of Northumberland Music Festival)	Morning of Saturday 7 th March (small group of KS2 singers)
Reception and Year 6 'Heights and Weights'	Afternoon of Monday 9 th March (Reception and Year 6)
Author visit to Cragside Primary to meet Shane Hegarty	Morning of Wednesday 11 th March (Year 2/Year 3)
National Sing Up Day – 'There's a power in the music'	Afternoon of Wednesday 11 th March
School Games Year 5 hockey competition	After school on Thursday 12 th March at CLV (2 x teams of players from Y5)
Sport Relief Day	Friday 13th March (more details to follow!)
Presentation of spring term writing awards	Monday 16 th March
School Games Year 3/Year 4 athletics competition	Morning of Tuesday 17 th March at Seaton Sluice (2 x teams from Y3/Y4)
H Tempest class photographs	Wednesday 18 th March
Governors Resource Committee meeting	Wednesday 18 th March at 4.30pm
End of Spring term assessments	Various dates within March for different classes (all KS1 and KS2 classes)

What's on	When and who?
Assembly led by Revd Wullie Docherty	Monday 23 rd March (Reception to Year 6)
Presentation of spring term writing/maths awards and TTRS certificates	Wednesday 25 th March (one child from each class; plus Y2/KS2 TTRS)
Visits for new Nursery pupils	Afternoon of Wednesday 25 th March at 1.30pm/2.30pm (pupils due to start Nursery after Easter)
Parents Evening Appointments	Thursday 26th March 2.30pm – 6.30pm (parents of all pupils) some additional appointment times will also be arranged for Nursery parents
Residential visit to Hawkhurst	Monday 30th March – Wednesday 1st April (Year 5 plus 3 staff)
KS1 Girls football festival at Northburn sports centre	Morning of Thursday 26 th March (girls from Year 1/Year 2)
Easter assembly	Wednesday 1 st April
Year 4 Rugby Festival at CLV	Morning of Thursday 2 nd April (Year 4)
Early Years family workshop	Friday 3 rd April 9am – 10am (parents/carers of Nursery/Reception pupils)
Golden Day	Friday 3rd April (all pupils who have followed our behaviour policy)
Pupils break up for Easter	Friday 3 rd April – <u>at 2pm</u>
School reopens after the Easter holiday	Monday 20th April 2020

World Book Day

We are celebrating World Book Day on **Friday 6th March!** Everyone is invited to come to school dressed in their pyjamas with their favourite 'book at bedtime'. As explained in the letter this week, **the 'fine' for our 'pyjama day' is just £1** and the money raised will go towards supporting the author visits which have been arranged this year. Everyone who brings in their £1 will be given a raffle ticket which will be entered into our prize draw! There will be opportunities for children to share stories with their classmates and other year groups on the day and all children will be given a voucher to take home which they can exchange for a special World Book Day book.

Sports update

As I am sure you will be aware from the list of events and clubs on offer, our aim is to continue to provide as many opportunities as we can for pupils to take part in various sporting activities at Eastlea as part of the ongoing sports partnership work in Cramlington. The support we have from parents in terms of encouraging pupils to attend the range of different clubs/activities on offer is excellent and is not something we take for granted.



Once again, we have had real success this year in securing places for Eastlea pupils in the two 'gifted and talented' sports academy ventures in Cramlington. Three pupils have been taking part in the Dance Academy and 4 pupils were selected to take part in the Multi-skills Academy – all of those who were put forward for the 'testing event'! Well done to them all!

PE Kits and School Uniform

So that everyone can continue to take an active part in the PE lessons and sports on offer at Eastlea can we ask that:

- Every child has their PE kit in school all week for PE lessons. As many of the sessions are now outdoors then dark coloured tracksuit bottoms can be worn for warmth and trainers are also required for these lessons.
- Although it is permitted for your child to wear trainers for outdoor PE and to play out at breaks and lunchtimes, they **MUST** have suitable black school shoes to wear in school. Boots with high heels are not appropriate and sitting in full length boots all day can be uncomfortable.

Reading awards

The vast majority of our pupils have been eagerly reading at home as part of our 'Computer' reading challenge and getting you to sign their reading records each week. I am delighted to say that so far **147 children have achieved their Bronze awards** and today we presented the **first 63 of our silver awards!!**

Punctuality and attendance

Each year we maintain our successful focus on improving attendance and punctuality. Last half term we had a real push on 'punctuality' and each week at the Friday assembly our aim was to beat the previous week's total by reducing the number of 'lates' recorded. As a result the number of lates dropped from 19 in the first week of January to 8 in the week before half term, which was a considerable improvement. We are hoping to maintain this positive picture and the children know that we have enough punctuality plaques to award to each class if as a school we ever manage to secure NO LATES AT ALL for one week – this would be a huge triumph!!

The weekly winners for both attendance and punctuality in the first six weeks of 2020 are listed below...you will notice that Year 6 have yet to win either the attendance trophy or the punctuality plaque so far in the spring term – something to aim for before Easter:

Attendance (One winner per week)	Punctuality (often shared by 2 classes each week)
Reception – once	Reception – three times
Year 1 – three times	Year 1 – once
	Year 2 – twice
Year 3 – once	Year 3 – twice
Year 4 – once	Year 4 – once
Year 5 – once	Year 5 – three times

- **Year 1** won our overall award for the **best attendance** for the first half of the spring term with an average of 98.4%, beating Year 3 who managed 97.35% and Reception with 96.8% attendance. Well done!
- **Year 5** were awarded with a certificate for the **best punctuality** during the half term – they had 6 'lates' recorded in the first half of the spring term, beating Year 2 who had 8 'lates' followed by Year 4 who had 9 'lates' – congratulations!!

Payments for residential visits in KS2 – AN IMPORTANT REMINDER!!

- Just about all payments for the Year 5 visit to Hawkhurst have now been received – thank you. This visit is only a few weeks away and parents/carers of pupils in Year 5 will be receiving more details about the visit next week.
- For those Year 6 children going to York from 22nd – 24th June a reminder that the remaining money is due by 27th March. If you are unsure how much is owed then check your payment card or contact Mrs Holdsworth in the school office.

School Meals

The menus for school meals remain the same for this half term and next week, w/b 2nd March, is week 2 of the cycle. If you require an additional copy of the current menus, then copies are available from the office.

Parking reminder

Please can I remind everyone that it is not safe to park on the yellow 'Keep Clear' chevroned area outside the main school gates. Please avoid this area so that it is left clear for emergency vehicles and also for direct access into and out of the gates. THANK YOU!

Coronavirus

In the last 2 days we have been provided with advice surrounding the concerns about the Coronavirus. The latest update is that if anyone has returned from either **Hubei Province, China** in the last 14 days, or **Iran, specific lockdown areas in Northern Italy** as designated by the Government of Italy, or **Daegu or Cheongdo, Republic of Korea** since 19th February then even if they have no symptoms they should call NHS 111, stay indoors and avoid contact with other people.

The letter outlining this information as well as the Public Health England poster for places of education has been uploaded onto the school website if anyone wants to check for further details.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher