



Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year

As we begin the second week of the spring term, may I take this opportunity to welcome everyone back and wish you all a very 'Happy New Year'.

At the start of the new term I would also like to pass on a few reminders/updates about policies and procedures at Eastlea:

1. School uniform

The vast majority of our pupils have returned to school looking very smart and tidy in their Eastlea school uniform. However, we do have some ongoing concerns regarding footwear. May I remind you that trainers are not to be worn in school. **Children should be wearing black school shoes.** If the weather is particularly bad then boots can be brought into school to be changed into at breaks/lunchtimes but they are not suitable to be worn all day and must not have high heels as this is dangerous. Despite the 'topsy turvy' weather over recent months it can still be cold and wet this term and to enable the children to keep warm and dry please could you ensure they have a suitable coat and gloves/hats/scarves as appropriate to be worn when they are outside.

2. P.E. kits

Everyone now should be fully aware of the need to have PE kits in school so that children can take part fully with the lessons that are going on. Items should be named and suitable footwear is required for outdoor sessions.

3. Hair

May I remind you that long hair must be tied back in school and hair should be thoroughly checked if problems with headlice occur – even when you think the infestation may be over.

4. School lunch menus

Apologies for the confusion as regards the menus since the holiday. The dates for the menus did not follow on as the cook expected – so for your information, last week we were on week 1, this week it is week 2 and next week will be week 3. If you have any queries linked to this please pop into the school office.

4. Attendance and punctuality

Before the Christmas holiday I told you the latest information with regard to the weekly winners of our attendance and punctuality awards. Here are some further updates:

- **Year 3** won our overall award for the **best attendance** for the second half of the autumn term – in total they won the weekly award four times during the half term and had an average of 96.29% attendance which narrowly beat Year 6 – congratulations!
- **Year 3** were also awarded with a certificate for the **best punctuality** during the half term with only 9 'lates' overall during the 7 weeks – well done!
- I am also pleased to announce that there were **53 pupils** who were awarded with individual certificates for achieving **100% attendance** in the autumn term. This is our highest total yet!

Attendance and punctuality will again be closely monitored this term together with support from the EWO. Competition remains fierce for our weekly attendance champions trophy and each class also wants to get their hands on the punctuality plaque – so your support in encouraging pupils to arrive in school on time every day is much appreciated.

7. Behaviour Policy update

The Brainwaves (school council) have been very busy in school since they were elected last term. They have been proactive in working to improve our playtimes with the launch of a new playground charter and have also completed a questionnaire for pupils/staff about our behaviour policy. As a result of this and in recognition of the improved behaviour of almost everyone at Eastlea, they have recommended some changes. These have been discussed with staff and will come into effect this term.

From now on the number of red traffic lights which will lead to a child not earning the right to attend Golden Day has been reduced for KS2. **This means that children in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 will not be allowed to attend golden day if they get THREE red traffic lights in a half term.** The other change for these classes is that two 'ambers' for the same offence will result in a red traffic light (instead of 3). The usual procedures remain the same for Early Years/Year 1/Year 2 (4 reds = no golden day; 3 ambers for the same offence = 1 red).

A copy of the revised behaviour policy summary is attached to this letter for your reference and the full policy is on our website.

5. Reading

Our Circus reading challenge continues this term. Your continued support with reading at home to help your child climb the 'rungs' towards their bronze or silver awards is much appreciated. We currently have 102 children with their pictures on the Circus display and hope to get more 'faces' in the hall in the coming weeks! Class teachers will be in touch with you if your child is not yet into a regular routine of reading at home and it is never too late to get the bronze award so the incentive is there for all children to get started!

6. Maths

We awarded our autumn maths awards in the weeks just before/after the holiday. Congratulations to all our winners! A display of their work is being put up in the school hall by Miss Fox (maths coordinator). I know that the maths challenge homework tasks are proving popular in all year groups and we aim to have some maths focused events to involve parents/families this term – see the calendar of events for more details.

Events planned for this half term

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

What's on	When and who?
Swimming sessions at Concordia	Tuesday afternoons from 6 th January (Year 4)
Attendance certificates and 'light green' letters are presented	Tuesday 6 th January
Lunchtime Girls football club	Wednesday lunchtimes from 7 th January (Year 5/Year 6)
Lunchtime running club	Thursday lunchtimes from 8 th January (Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6)
New Nursery pupils join Eastlea	Monday 12 th and Wednesday 14 th January (new intake begin their Nursery sessions)
Gifted and talented Dance academy	Mondays after school from 12 th January (group of pupils from Year 4 – with children from across the town)
Educational Class Visit to 'Centre for Life'	Tuesday 13 th January – all day (Year 6 – paid for by the pupils' Enterprise fund)
Lunchtime 'Professional football coaching'	Tuesday lunchtimes from 13 th January (pupils from Year 2, 3, 5 and 6)
Year 6 Evening Chronicle journalism project	Wednesday 14 th January – deadline for the 'Our School' Evening Chronicle page to be submitted <i>The Eastlea page will be published on Thursday 22nd January!!</i>
After school Netball club	Tuesdays after school from 13 th January (Year 5/Year 6)
'Fiddles' tuition – part of our continuing traditional music project	Wednesday afternoons in music lessons from 14 th January (Year 6 and Year 3)
After school 'KS2 Eastlea Singing club'	Starts again Wednesday 14 th January 3.15pm – 4.15pm (pupils from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)
Before school 'Street Dance' club	Thursday mornings at 8am from Thursday 15 th January (Year 1/Year 2)
Governors – School Improvement committee meeting	Thursday 15 th January (5pm)
Multi-skills academy selection event at Sporting Club Cramlington	Friday 16 th January (3.30 – 5.00pm) (group of pupils from Year 5 and Year 6)
Skippping coaching session	Monday 19 th January – afternoon (Year 5 – plus demonstration for all classes)
Storytelling session led by Eileen Armstrong/CLV students	Wednesday 21 st January (Year 1 and Year 2)
Informal Cramlington Governors training event	Wednesday 28 th January (6pm)

What's on	When and who?
Gymnastics competition at Northern Gymnastics Club	Monday 2 nd February (morning) Team of pupils from Year 4
Maths open afternoon for parents	Thursday 5th February from 1.30pm for all classes from Reception to Year 6 (further details to follow)
Blue Peter Book Awards deadline for submission of 'judging feedback'	Friday 6 th February (Year 5/Year 6)
Cramlington Basketball Night – Eagles match at Newcastle Sports Central	Evening of Friday 6th February – KS2 children/families (further details will follow)
After school Maths boosters/homework club	Tuesday after school sessions from 20 th January (Year 6)
'Bacon butty' Literacy boosters	Thursday morning before school Literacy sessions from 22 nd January (Year 6)
Golden Day	Friday 13th February (all pupils who have followed our behaviour policy)
Pupils break up for half term	Friday 13 th February
School reopens after the half term holiday	Monday 23 rd February

Children's Centre activities

Information is available from the centre themselves (01670 739528) if you are interested in any activities that are being planned for the coming weeks:

- **Parent/Carers Digital Photography Group** – 5 week course starting Friday 16th January 9.30 – 11am
*[*Free camera for everyone who completes the course!]*
- **Cooking Healthy Family Meals on a budget** – 4 week course starting on Thursday 15th January 9.30 – 11.30am

Advance notice for parents of pupils in Year 6

Mrs Coleby has asked me to mention that the KS2 SATs week this year takes place in the week beginning May 11th 2015. Ever since Eastlea became a Primary school our Year 6 pupils have done us proud with their efforts in this important week and I know that this year will be no exception. In order to 'show off' what they can do it is vital that all the Year 6 pupils are in school every day that week, so I hope that this advance notice of the date is helpful.

Yours sincerely

E Beeston

Miss E Beeston
Head Teacher



Behaviour Policy

January 2015

This is a summary of the school's Behaviour Policy. If you would like to read further details, please call in at the school office, where a full copy will be supplied to you.

Rationale

- We have developed a Policy for Behaviour which is based on our school aims and the values we seek to maintain.
- We want all our children to be happy, do their best and feel secure.

[For details of rights and responsibilities for pupils, staff and parents, please see full policy]

Aims

- A Code of Conduct for behaviour which is agreed and carried out.
- A clear understanding of acceptable/unacceptable behaviour.

Children at Eastlea Primary School should:

- Take responsibility for their own behaviour
- Behave sensibly and safely
- Feel proud of themselves and their school
- Show respect for each other and the environment
- Do their best and encourage others to do the same

Eastlea School Rules

- Always try your best
- Speak to everyone calmly and politely
- Look after all equipment and treat it with care
- Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself
- Follow all adult instructions first time

Support for Pupils

- We recognise that all adults must be consistent and supportive in order to help the children interact positively
- We acknowledge that there will be times when pupils find it difficult to maintain the school rules (see below under Special Educational Needs)

[For further details please see full behaviour document.]

Support for Parents/Carers

- Staff are approachable and seek to be available to talk to parents immediately should any negative behaviour be noted.
- If the matter cannot be resolved there is recourse to the Head Teacher and from there to the support services both educational and medical.

Support for Staff

- Behaviour expectations, strategies and procedures will be consistent throughout the school (at an age appropriate level)
- Opportunities to discuss strategies will be provided with reference to particular classes and individuals
- Local authority multi agencies available for advice or additional support if required

Behaviour Management

We aim to:

- Praise and reward acceptable behaviour at every opportunity
- Maintain a ratio of 4 positive comments to every 1 negative
- Fairly apply rewards and sanctions
- Ensure that with incidents of unacceptable behaviour, the behaviour and not the child is criticised
- Take a corporate role in promoting good behaviour

Rewards

We firmly believe that praise is the most effective method of encouraging good behaviour. The following is a list of the rewards which we feel are age appropriate:

- Praise from class teacher
- Rocket Points
- Earning time for Golden time on Friday afternoon
- Stickers
- Special jobs and responsibilities
- Praise from Head Teacher
- Entry into the Golden Book
- Letters home for continued effort/conduct
- Golden day activities and events

[For further details of some of these Eastlea rewards please see the full policy.]

Sanctions

- A 'look' from class teacher/ non verbal signal
- Reminder of the Eastlea school rules
- Verbal warning
- Re-positioning within the room
- Progress through the traffic light system – moving from light green to amber or red if required.
 - Entry into the 'red' traffic light results in 'Thinking Time' before lunch/at the end of the day with the class teacher. Pupils discuss their behaviour to consider how they can improve and 'get back on track' in the green traffic light.
 - If a pupil goes into 'red' then the Head Teacher will be informed.
 - Reception/KS1: Parents/carers will get a letter from the Head Teacher after 2 'reds' in a half term explaining that if 4 'reds' are reached then the child will not attend Golden Day and inviting them to come into school to discuss the issues.
 - KS2: parents/carers will get a letter from the head Teacher after each 'red' in a half term explaining that if 3 'reds' are reached then the child will not attend Golden Day and inviting them to come into school to discuss the issues.
 - If a child is in the 'amber' 3 times (twice for KS2) in a half term for the same 'offence' then this will be converted into one 'red'
- Pupil seen by Head Teacher or Deputy Head
- If a case of bullying behaviour is identified, parents of both the child being bullied and the child[ren] exhibiting the bullying behaviour will be informed.
- Internal exclusion from some activities
- Removal from the classroom to the withdrawal room (*See the school policy on the 'Use of Force to control and restrain pupils' together with the separate protocol for use of the withdrawal room.*)
- Fixed term exclusion. This sanction will be applied in circumstances where a pupil is a danger to him/herself or others, displays threatening behaviour to adults or who disrupts the teaching of other pupils.
- Permanent exclusion

Special Educational Needs

If a pupil's behaviour is consistently concerning, the parents will be invited to discuss supportive strategies which may help:

- Designing a short term individual behaviour reward system for that child based on agreed targets
- Putting the child on the Special Needs Register so that expert advice can be sought.

Behaviour at lunchtimes

Midday Supervisory Assistants will supervise the children at lunchtimes. The children will be required to respect their authority at all times.

Specific Lunchtime Rewards

- Rocket points
- Stickers
- Recommendation for the Golden Table on Friday
- Special jobs and responsibilities
- Special mention in the class lunchtime book

[For further details of some of these Eastlea rewards please see the full policy.]

Specific Lunchtime Sanctions

- Verbal warning
- Time out 'on the fence'
- Referral to the member of staff on duty in the library

N.B. A record will be made of all sanctions in the year group lunchtime book – this is shared with the class teacher

- Persistent inappropriate behaviour at lunchtime can result in the pupil being excluded for one week at lunchtime and parents being invited into school to discuss the behaviour with the Head Teacher.