



Dear Parents/Carers,

Tomorrow we come to the end of the first half of the autumn term for all pupils and this newsletter includes some updates and reminders before we start the half term break.

### Golden Day reminder

The vast majority of the pupils have earned the right to attend our Golden Day tomorrow and we are looking forward to a sporting day with a rugby theme. Remember, for those children who are taking part, Wednesday is a non-uniform day with no fine to pay...the theme is sport/rugby so the children should come in casual sportswear for the day and must have trainers for the rugby based activities – weather permitting they will spend part of the morning/afternoon outside so should have warm clothing and we also recommend a change of clothes and footwear in case they get muddy! Lunch arrangements are as normal on Golden Day.

### Thank you for your continued support

We have had a busy first 7½ weeks of the school year and our many events have been extremely well supported – for which we are very grateful. In particular I wanted to mention:

- **Outer Space Reading Challenge** – our 'launch event' proved to be extremely popular and the children are already making good progress towards their bronze reading awards. We are looking forward to adding the faces of our first bronze award winners onto the 'class planets' on the hall display in December after 10 weeks of reading and **every child can gain another sticker on their bookmark if they read and have their reading record signed over the half term break!** Thank you in advance for your support and encouragement with this.
- **Harvest Festival** – we were delighted with the response to this year's event. Thank you to everyone who sent in an item of food for the Cramlington Foodbank – all of which were well received by Revd Steve at St Nicholas' church on Monday last week.
- **Parents' appointments** – the vast majority of parents had an opportunity to speak to their child's class teacher last week for the October parents' appointments. We are always delighted with the support we receive for such events and the feedback from the parental questionnaires which were completed in large numbers is overwhelming positive – a fuller analysis of the responses will be shared after the holiday, but if anyone still has a questionnaire to return then please can these be handed in tomorrow.
- **Sponsored Enterprise Fundraising Event** – everyone had a great time on Friday last week as each class got involved in various cycling/walking/scooting/wheeling events. We know that lots of children have got several sponsors who have agreed to donate money to our enterprise visits/activities funds. We hope to have all the sponsor money collected in by the end of the first week back after half term – so please can you encourage anyone who has promised their support to pay their sponsor money ASAP. Thank you!

### School lunches – and 'Hungry Hatch' update

After half term the new winter menus will begin for those pupils having school lunches. Many of the popular choices have remained the same as on previous menus but there are some changes which have been discussed with a committee of pupils and will be something different for the children to enjoy.

- **Pasta Master** remains the popular choice for Monday lunches together with milk shake as part of the dessert options
- On Tuesdays each week the pupils will have the choice of either having **homemade soup/bread roll** as a starter plus their main meal, or to have their main meal and a dessert as usual. Vegetable or tomato soup were the choices opted for by the children so these will feature in different weeks.
- Wednesday is always the '**roast dinner day**' – with different meats over the 3 weekly cycle.
- Each Friday the dessert will be '**school steamed pudding**' of the week and classes will be asked to choose the 'topping' to go with the pudding each week – lemon, chocolate, ginger, syrup or jam will feature in the list of choices!

Copies of the menus are attached to this letter so that you know what is on offer on each day. **Week One will start in the week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> November.** For those required to pay for lunches, the cost per meal remains the same at £2.20 per day. If your child hasn't had a school dinner before then perhaps some of the hot food choices on particular days may tempt them to have a try?

In an election before the end of last school year the name of our school kitchen was decided as the '**Hungry Hatch**'. A competition, led by Brainwaves, has been running to design a logo to go with this name and we hope that during the next half term the chosen logo will be clearly in evidence at the kitchen hatch and on the uniform of the school kitchen staff.

### Facebook Update

Following the recent Harvest Festival we were alerted by a parent that a photo of their child had been taken in church and uploaded onto Facebook. As you are all aware we only allow photos taken at school events of your child to be for personal use only. **Under no circumstances should photographs containing images of other children be uploaded onto Facebook as this can potentially put children at risk as in certain circumstances there are clear reasons why images should not be shared.** If these common sense guidelines are not adhered to then we will have to adopt the far stricter policies used in some schools where no photos/video footage of any school events is allowed to be taken by parents/carers.

### School Uniform

The vast majority of pupils are very smart in their Eastlea school uniform, but we have had a few difficulties with footwear, leggings and the colour of jumpers/cardigans. As the cooler autumn/winter weather arrives please remember that black shoes need to be worn in school by all pupils and that trainers are only suitable for PE lessons. Navy blue sweatshirts/cardigans and school trousers not leggings are also required and the children should have a coat in school to wear at breaks and lunchtimes.

### And finally...

Don't forget that the children break up tomorrow at the usual time after Golden Day. The staff have two training day sessions in school on Thursday and Friday of this week. Enjoy the half term holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school for the second half of the autumn term on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

A newsletter will be circulated after the holiday with all the upcoming dates for events in the next busy half term but you may like to know that poppies will be on sale here in the first two weeks of November and that we will also be supporting the annual Children in Need charity event on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November which this year has a superhero fancy dress theme – no fine to pay, just our usual unique 'Pennies for Pudsey' fundraising event.

Yours sincerely

*E Beeston*

Miss E Beeston,  
Head Teacher