



Eastlea update - 17/7/20



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a year this has been!! As I said to the Year 6 parents/families earlier this week I think I can safely say that NONE of us have ever been part of a school year like it and because, as a staff, we have been involved in the ever changing situation each step of the way I think it will only be in the next few days and weeks that we can stop and reflect on what a HUGE undertaking we have been involved with to keep Eastlea running as best we can in such trying circumstances. What I am clear about is that this would not have been possible without **ALL** the elements of the 'Eastlea Team' working together... staff, governors, parents/carers/family members and pupils. **THANK YOU for the part you have all played in this!**

September reopening information

- Eastlea will be closed for the summer holidays and will reopen for all pupils on **Wednesday 2nd September 2020**. This follows the late August bank holiday on Monday 31st August and a staff training day on Tuesday 1st September.
- I will keep my eye on any changes to government guidelines and procedures, but unless something changes locally/nationally, **we plan to have ALL children back in ALL classes for FIVE days a week from September**.
- All **Nursery** pupils will be in school for the morning sessions from September (8.45 – 11.45am). Those who are eligible for 30 hours will stay all day. *[N.B. Some of our youngest new Nursery pupils will not return until Monday 7th September – but this has already been outlined to those involved].*
- **Reception** pupils will have a slightly 'phased' start to ensure staff can best support their transition. Mrs Atkinson will be in touch to explain precise details, but for the majority in the class this will involve attending for the mornings on Wednesday 2nd/Thursday 3rd September then morning and lunch on Friday 4th before full days from Monday 7th.
- The staggered starting/finishing times and use of designated access gates/doors has worked exceptionally well and our aim will be to continue with 'similar' arrangements – as this will ease any potential congestion when we have the full classes attending each day. Confirmation of these arrangements will be shared towards the end of the holiday and also outlined when you attend the re-open day on 27th August – see below!
- On **Thursday 27th August** we will be holding an '**Eastlea Re-open Day**' **between 10am – 2pm**. This will give pupils/parents a chance to come to school to see their new classroom and meet their new teacher...something we feel is very important. We will inform you of more details about how this will be organised later in the holidays but please put the date in your diary! This will also be an opportunity to collect/order any further items of school uniform – as we hope to have had another delivery by then (fingers crossed).
- **For our Year 6 pupils and their families** – thanks for the huge numbers who attended our socially distant Leavers' Celebration event on Tuesday. We wish you well as you begin your secondary school journey and remember to look out for information over the summer from your new schools about start dates and arrangements! **GOOD LUCK!**

Summer holiday reminders

- **Don't forget about the 'Silly Squad' libraries summer reading challenge**. If you have yet to sign up – then further details can be found on the [Challenge](#) website.
- **Take care with any online activity**. We have been sent the following link from the Northumberland E-safety team to access an online safety newsletter containing some of the latest guidance for parents: <https://www.smores.com/kgdq>
- Please continue to look for ways to **keep your children active over the summer** – thank you for your fantastic involvement in the sporting challenges which already taken place. **It was brilliant to see Eastlea at the TOP of the leaderboard for the Stair Climb Challenge – YIPPEE!!!** There will be details about other activities you can get involved with over the summer – and we have been asked to encourage you to post what you've been up to on the Northumberland School Games Facebook page here <https://www.facebook.com/NorthumberlandSchoolGames>

Term Dates for next year

I am aware that with everything else going on, this may not have been top of your agenda – but for those who are looking to plan ahead – I have included a copy of the term dates for 2020-2021 below. They are also on the school website.

<u>HOLIDAY OR OCCASION OF CLOSURE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL CLOSE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL REASSEMBLE</u>
<u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY 1 September 2020</u>	
Summer 2020	Friday 17 July 2020	Wednesday 2 September 2020
October Mid-Term 2020	Thursday 22 October 2020	Monday 2 November 2020
<u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY 23 October 2020</u>	
Christmas/New Year 2020/2021	Friday 18 December 2020	Tuesday 5 January 2021
<u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u>	<u>MONDAY 4 JANUARY 2021</u>	
Spring Mid-Term 2021	Friday 12 February 2021	Monday 22 February 2021
Easter 2021	Friday 26 March 2021	Monday 12 April 2021
<u>May Day</u>	<u>MONDAY 3 May 2021</u>	
Summer Mid-Term 2021	Friday 28 May 2021	Monday 7 June 2021
Summer 2021	Friday 16 July 2021	Monday 6 September 2021

Before that have a good holiday, whatever you are involved with. Please look after yourselves so that we can all return safe and well in September, and remember...

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher

