



Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back

This newsletter contains a full outline of everything that is planned for another action packed half term at Eastlea!

What's going on this half term

What's on	When and who?
Starting date for new intake in Nursery	Monday 24 th April
Year 3/Year 4 Tag Rugby lunchtime club	Mondays from 24 th April (Year 3&4)
Cricket coaching in PE lessons	Mondays from 24 th April (Year 6)
Year 5/Year 6 after school cricket club	Mondays after school from 24 th April (Year 5&6)
Lunchtime 'Professional football coaching'	Tuesday lunchtimes from 25 th April (pupils from Year 3, 4, 5 and 6)
NUFC Football coaching during PE lessons	Tuesday afternoons from 25 th April (Year 1 and Year 2)
After school KS2 football club	Tuesdays after school starting from 25 th April (Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6)
After school Maths SATs Booster club	Tuesday after school sessions on 25 th April and 2 nd May (Year 6)
Lunchtime Rugby Rocket Tots club	Wednesday lunchtimes from 26 th April (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)
Year 5/Year 6 Tag Rugby lunchtime club	Wednesday lunchtimes from 26 th April (Year 5&6)
Fiddles music tuition	Wednesday afternoons in music lessons from 26 th April (Year 4 and Year 5)
After school 'Eastlea Singing club'	Starts again Wednesday 26 th April 3.15pm – 4.15pm (pupils from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)
Before school Literacy SATs Booster club	8am Thursday mornings on 27 th April and 4 th May (Year 6)
Before school 'Street Dance' club	8am Thursday mornings from 27 th April (Reception to Year 6)
Lunchtime running club	Continuing on Thursday lunchtimes from 27 th April (Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6)
Pre-SATS treat 'skiing lesson' at Silksworth	Afternoon of Thursday 27 th April (Year 6)
'Green Screen' project for group of Digital Leaders	Friday 28 th April and 5 th May (Year 4&5 Digital Leaders)
May Day Bank Holiday – school closed	Monday 1st May – school closed
KS1 SATs assessments	During May – these will form part of the overall teacher assessment judgement made by Eastlea staff (Year 2)
Ford Castle Residential Visit	Tuesday 2nd – Wednesday 3rd May (group of pupils from Year 3&4 plus 4 staff)
Steel Pan after school music club	Tuesdays after school from 2 nd May (Group of pupils from Year 3/Year 4/Year 5)
Computer Suite used as a polling station for local elections – school open as usual	Thursday 4th May – school open as usual
'SATs Saturday' (A fun day to revise maths and English!)	Saturday 6 th May (Year 6)
KS2 SATs week	Monday 8 th – Thursday 11 th May (all Year 6 pupils – we wish them the very best of luck!)
Eastlea 'STEM project' fortnight – Science, technology, Maths and Computing focus	Monday 15th – Friday 26th May (Whole school) <i>This will also include an 'open house' event for parents/carers on the afternoon of Friday 26th May – more details to follow!</i>

What's on	When and who?
Tag Rugby School Games competitions	Thursday 18 th May (Morning = team from Year 3/Year 4 at Astley Afternoon = team from Year 5/Year 6 at Astley)
Children's Cancer Run	Sunday 21 st May – Gosforth Park race course – a group of staff and Year 4/Year 5/Year 6 pupils take part in this charity event
York Residential Visit	Tuesday 23rd – Thursday 25th May (most of Year 6 plus 4 staff)
Mixed athletics school games competition	Afternoon of Wednesday 24 th May (teams of pupils from Year 5/Year 6)
Summer Term Full Governing Body Meeting	Wednesday 24 th May from 4.30pm
Year 4 Mixed tennis competition at Alexandra Park	Afternoon of Thursday 25 th May (teams of pupils from Year 4)
Golden Day	Friday 26th May (all pupils who have followed our behaviour policy)
Pupils break up for half term	Friday 26 th May
School reopens after the half term holiday	Monday 5 th June

Uniform – PE kits and school shoes

There is a lot of sport planned for this term and hopefully with some better weather the PE sessions for most classes will be taking place outside. It is therefore important that pupils have their PE kits in school each week and this should include black shorts, plain white t-shirt and trainers. Plain dark tracksuits could also be brought to wear. It is very important that all PE kit is clearly labelled with your child's name – as this will save lots of delays and frustrations at the beginning of PE sessions!

We also still have some children who are 'forgetting' their black school shoes. Please can you help to remind them!

Punctuality and attendance

Our outcomes in terms of attendance and punctuality are consistently improving and this was recognised and praised in the recent Ofsted inspection. Here are the 'headlines' from last half term:

- The weekly attendance champions' trophy and punctuality plaque winners for the six weeks of the second half of the spring term are included in the table below:

Attendance (usually one winner per week, but can be shared)	Reception – once	Year 1 – once	Year 2 – once	Year 3 – once	Year 5 – once	Year 6 – once
Punctuality (often shared by 2 or 3 classes each week)		Year 1 – 3 times	Year 2 – twice		Year 5 – 3 times	Year 6 – 3 times

N.B. Year 4 are aiming to win both the trophy and the plaque this term!

- Year 5** won our overall award for the **best attendance** for the second half of the spring term – their average for the half term was 98.33% – well done!
- Year 5** were awarded with the certificate for the **best punctuality** during the half term. They had '5 lates' recorded during the whole half term and narrowly beat Year 6 who had just 6 and Year 1 who had 7!!
- Our analysis has shown that **the total of 'lates' was again reduced** across the whole school during the previous half term – which we are delighted about!
- We also had a large number of individuals from across the school who managed to maintain full attendance and excellent punctuality for a whole of the spring term. We had **61 pupils in total** who achieved this and they were **awarded with special certificates for 100% attendance in the spring term**. 26 of them are on track for a full year of 100% attendance having not missed a day in either the autumn or spring terms...good luck!!
- In terms of what is classed nationally as 'persistent absence' the number of pupils at Eastlea with **attendance below 90% has been reduced again**. There are now only 13 pupils with less than 90% attendance out of the whole school. This is a great achievement and we are working with these families to reduce the figure even further!

Miss Betham (Year 2) and Mrs Stafford (Year 6) will be especially keen to encourage perfect punctuality and good attendance this half term as they embark on their 'Secret Agent Training' or SATs in May!

Eastlea 'Hungry Hatch' School Lunches – new menus

As mentioned before the Easter holiday, the 'summer menus' for school lunches will be starting in a couple of weeks. We will keep you up-to-date with any alterations.

Nursery places

As you may be aware there are a lot of changes to what is being offered in terms of Nursery provision nationally. **We will continue to offer the free morning sessions in Nursery for all our children so this will not change.** However, in addition to this, from September 2017 working parents/carers, who meet the government criteria, will be eligible for 30 hours. **Eastlea Nursery will be offering this 30 hours (full day) free provision for eligible pupils from September.**

Please can we ask that depending on your circumstances, **if you have any children who are aged 0-3 years** or if you know of anyone in this position who would like places at Eastlea Nursery then it is important that:

- Nursery application forms are collected from the school office, completed and returned to reserve a place for whichever term your child is entitled to start (the term after their 3rd birthday)
- Our questionnaire about 30 hours provision is completed so that we can work out whether you will be entitled and reserve you a place (questionnaires for those who have not completed them already are available from the school office – or by asking Miss Dougall or Mrs Atkinson)

Other providers locally can also offer 15 or 30 hours provision but if you want your child to take up a place in our Eastlea Nursery – any time from when they turn three then it is important that you speak to us and fill in our application form and /or ring and come and visit us to talk things through (01670 732261).

Parking, smoking and vaping!

Thank you to the many parents who have heeded our request and are now keeping the entrance gate ways clear of dogs, buggies and 'groups' so that people can get passed easily to enter and leave the school premises. This is much appreciated.

I have recently had some concerns raised about inappropriate language being used by adults who are dropping children off at school and I know you will be keen to help us top tackle this. I'm sure you will agree that it is not something which we want our children to be faced with hearing at the start and end of the school day.

As you are also aware there can be no smoking in or around the school building/grounds and I would be grateful if parents who do smoke don't do so just outside the school, or instead could they move further from the school gates so that other children and adults who are entering and leaving do not have to come through a cloud of vaping/cigarette smoke. Your support with this would also be greatly appreciated.

For those who drive to school, please can I also take this opportunity to remind you again about the importance of parking carefully around the vicinity of the school and being courteous to other road users. It is important not to block paths and driveways with cars or park on pavements as this can cause problems for local residents and other pedestrians. Thank you again for your support in this matter.

IMPORTANT reminder for pupils from Year 3/Year 4 going to Ford Castle next week

Please remember that if your child is going on this residential visit that they set off from school on Tuesday 2nd May and return the following day. The children have all taken home a letter outlining the arrangements for the visit. The children need to come to school at normal time on Tuesday morning and enter through their usual door. Their overnight bags should be left at the bottom of the Year 3/Year 4 stairs and they should be dressed for their visit – school uniform is not required. Please note that if you were thinking of 'waving them off' then the coach to take the children will not be leaving until 10am (or a little later) on Tuesday morning. They will be back at school by approximately 3.30pm on Wednesday 3rd May. The visit will be an excellent experience for your child and I'm sure they will all have a great time!

Yours sincerely

Miss E Beeston
Head Teacher