

Eastlea update - 1/5/20

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we move into May, Eastlea has been 'closed' for 6 weeks which hardly seems possible. We have continued to provide childcare for children of key workers and vulnerable families throughout the week and this now seems to have settled into a routine for the families concerned. Mindful of the updates from the government which advise us to maintain the 'lockdown' restrictions', we do our best to follow strict handwashing routines and observe social distancing with those who need to be in school (although as you can imagine that aspect is tricky). Your support with this is appreciated.

School work at home and resources to help children

We have had a positive response to the work being set by staff – whether this is online via Seesaw/Tapestry or via paper based packs of work collected from school. If there are any difficulties or issues with either accessing the work that has been set or tackling the activities please contact your child's teacher in the first instance.

The Gruffalo illustrator, Axel Scheffler, has contributed to a free e-book explaining coronavirus to children, available at <https://nosycrowcoronavirus.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/Coronavirus-ABookForChildren.pdf>

Vouchers for families entitled to Free School Meals

Although most issues have now been sorted there were some problems on the website on 27th/28th April. If you received an error message the advice is to now try again or perhaps it might mean re-entering the code. If the problem persists Edenred can be contacted on freeschoolmealsparents@edenred.com

Looking ahead....?

I know parents/carers, pupils and staff (!) are keen to know what may be happening as regards reopening Eastlea again for some/all classes. We will all be delighted when this is allowed to happen but any change could be a while yet. Rest assured that the moment we have any news on this you will be informed. At the current time though there is no more guidance on when this might be and so, like all schools, Eastlea must remain 'closed' to the majority of pupils and we have to stay patient and follow the ongoing lockdown restrictions to prevent further spread of this vicious virus.

VE Day – Friday 8th May



If we had been in school, we would have been having a 'focus' on VE Day next week. We will provide suggestions of work for the children linked to this national 'celebration' – and would love you to share with us any work you do. Suggestions for activities will be shared via Seesaw/Tapestry with some information on the school website.

For children who are in school next week (including on Bank Holiday Friday when we will be open for those who need childcare), we will be doing activities based on VE Day and hope to put together a display of

items ready for 8th May. This will also be the focus of our next competition – see below!

Competitions

Class teachers were very pleased with the designs for 100th birthday cards for Captain Tom (now an honorary Colonel) which were submitted by children across the school in the last couple of weeks. Copies of the winning designs have been posted on the school's Facebook page and prizes were delivered yesterday morning to some very excited recipients!! Well done to all of our winners!

Our next competition is linked to VE Day and we are asking pupils (and parents?!) to design and make a spitfire in whatever form you wish.

Pictures/videos of your spitfires should be uploaded onto Seesaw/Tapestry or via private Facebook message **by Thursday 7th May**. Good luck!



Stay at home, take care and stay safe and well!

Yours sincerely, Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher

