



Dear Parents/Carers,

Friday will mark the end of the summer term at Eastlea. It hardly seems possible that we are rapidly approaching the end of another school year and this newsletter provides some end of term updates as well as looking ahead to some items for over the summer and into September.

Eastlea Leavers

- Yesterday we had the Year 6 Leavers' celebration event for all our Year 6 children and their families. This had to be moved indoors due to the weather yesterday, but it was still a super occasion and one that everyone who attended seemed to thoroughly enjoy. We wish all our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck at whichever secondary school they are moving to in September and know that if they believe in themselves and keep working hard they will achieve everything they set out to do.
- I would also like to say farewell to those in Nursery who are moving to other schools for their Reception year. I know they are very sad to have to leave us and we will miss them very much. We hope you settle well in your new schools and look forward to hearing about how you are getting on in the future.

Reading Challenge and Champion Readers

Our 'Disney reading challenge' has once again been very successful this year. We have high 'totals' at the end of the year with **216 bronze, 192 silver and 170 gold award winners**. Today we presented Champion Reader awards to those pupils who just keep on reading / getting their reading record signed for at least another 8 weeks, even after they have achieved their gold award! Well done to them all...there were **132** in total who will be proudly coming home with their gold balloons today! As you can imagine this again created lots of excitement in our assembly this morning!!

Over the summer we would also encourage your child(ren) to get involved in the reading challenge run by the local libraries. The '**Ready, set, read**' holiday challenge which encourages children to borrow and read 6 books runs throughout the summer holidays. There are lots of prizes and incentives on offer and we will reward the children who complete the challenge with a summer reading picnic in September. This challenge is always well supported by the Eastlea children and I wonder how many will complete it this summer?

Other events which form part of this challenge can be booked via Eventbrite by using this link: <http://nlandlibs.eventbrite.com/> and include:

- '**Lego @ the Library**' workshop at **CRAMLINGTON** library on Monday 31st July from 10.30am – 11.30am
- '**The Funny Life of Football**' with author James Campbell on Wednesday 26th July at 11am – 12pm at Bedlington Station library in the East Bedlington Community Centre
- '**Superhero and Princess Party**' on Wednesday 2nd August from 10.30am – 11.30am at **CRAMLINGTON** library
- '**Epic Adventures**' with author Robin Simpson' on Wednesday 16th August from 10am – 11am at **CRAMLINGTON** library
- '**Discover Art Caricatures**' – children's art workshop with local artist Amy Brooks on Thursday 24th August at Morpeth Library (10am – 11am) and Prudhoe Library (2pm – 3pm)

Summer Reading Challenge 2023

Ready, Set, Read!

Presented by The Reading Agency
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

It's all fun and games at Cramlington library this summer

Team Cramlington are on the look out for new signings this summer!

Join our squad for the 2023 Summer Reading Challenge where you can go for gold as you power through our exciting new book collections. Then spring into action ready to tackle the great list of event fixtures we've got coming up.

So grab your bike, scooter, skates or running shoes and head over to join the fun.

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| Sat 8th July | And we're off.... today is launch day. Join us between 9.30am-1pm to be one of the first to join this years challenge! Summer Reading Challenge Crafts! Come along to these craft sessions, Wed 26th July, Wed 23rd August, Wed 30th August all 10.30am-11.30am |
| Mon 31st July 10.30am-11.30am | LEGO® @ the Library - Tinker with tech this summer at one of our programmable LEGO® workshops. We'll use LEGO® Education SPIKE™ Essential kits and tablets. Suitable for children aged 6+ who must be accompanied by a responsible adult. |
| Wed 2nd August 10.30am-11.30am | Superhero and Princess Party! Ability2Play and Little Movers are linking together for a Superhero and Princess Special! We will dive into the story 'Princesses wear trainers' before trying out some movement and dancing to superhero and princess music! We will drive the bat mobile and balance our beanbags like princesses before celebrating with lots of parachute fun! This session will be active and full of music so please come dressed as your favourite superhero or princess and wear trainers to boogie in! |
| Wed 16th August 10am-11am | Epic Adventures with Robin Simpson Spectacular stories, quirky quizzes and friendly fun with storyteller Robin Simpson |

Book events via nlandlibs.eventbrite.com

THE READING AGENCY **SUMMER READING CHALLENGE** Northumberland County Council

Golden Day reminder

Tomorrow we will be having our end of year Golden Day. Nursery have summer activities in school and a Little Movers workshop, while the rest of the school are travelling to Blyth Beach. All the details were provided in the previous letters (see Seesaw/Tapestry/school website). School uniform is not required on Thursday and there is no fine to pay.

We do not know what sort of weather we will have tomorrow so please can you also make sure your child has **sun cream applied, a hat, a towel/change of clothes, coat** and a **water bottle** with them. *A packed lunch is only required for those who do not want cod bites and chips (class teachers must be informed about anyone bringing a packed lunch in advance)!*

HUGGG vouchers for children in receipt of benefit based Free School Meals

A reminder that the HUGGG vouchers for the summer holiday were circulated this morning via email. Vouchers are for food/clothes only and have to be used before 30th September 2023.

Staffing update

There will be a couple of changes to our support staffing from September. This week we say farewell to Miss Harvey who has supported the Nursery class since January. Miss Harvey is starting a university course in September, training to be a teacher, and we wish her good luck with this new adventure. Miss Atkinson, Mr Emmerson and Miss Laird are also continuing their teacher training university courses in September and we have been grateful for the additional support they have provided this term.

From September, three teaching assistants will be joining the staff team, all of whom are known to the school.

- Miss Craig, who will be based in Year 3, is an ex-pupil who gained her qualified teacher status this summer having successfully negotiated her university course through the Covid pandemic.
- Mrs Lobb, someone else with qualified teacher status, who has also worked at Eastlea in recent months will provide support in KS1 next year.
- Miss Wilkinson will be joining our Nursery team to further her career by completing an Early Years Educator apprenticeship.

School uniform – a reminder

Most parents/carers who ordered uniform or PE tracksuits a short while ago have received their items already. We do still have a few items in stock in some sizes if anyone has realised they want any more sweatshirts, cardigans, bookbags etc. Remember that pre-loved school uniform can also be obtained FREE OF CHARGE from the Hope Centre. As I always do at this stage of the year, may I also take this opportunity to remind you of the uniform requirements at Eastlea.

Uniform list

- School sweatshirt/cardigan in navy blue (available with the Eastlea logo) *[N.B. school hoodies are not to be worn other than on PE days]*
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Grey/black trousers/shorts or skirt (leggings are not appropriate)
- Summer option – blue check/stripe dress
- Black school shoes – NOT trainers please.

P.E. kit

- School tracksuit bottoms/and hoodie (if you have one) – or PLAIN navy tracksuit without logos.
- Plain white t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Trainers
- Younger children can wear black sandshoes or bare feet for indoor P.E.

Jewellery... A REMINDER ABOUT EARRINGS!!

No jewellery can be worn in school and we have a policy of **NO EARRINGS**. ***So if you are thinking of getting your child's ears pierced it needs to be done at the very start of the summer holidays so they can remove earrings before they come back to school in September.***

HOPE UNIFORM & BABY BANK



We accept donations of good quality pre-owned school clothing and redistribute it to parents/guardians and children through our uniform bank. This service is free and no referral is required.



Donated baby and nursery items are free to collect by parents or guardians following a referral from a professional person, e.g. midwife, social worker, health visitor.

Uniform Monday-Friday 10:00–16:00
Nursery by appointment
Email hope1uniform@gmail.com
Forum Way NE23 6SJ

 **Keeping It Local** 

Summer holiday items



- The St Oswald's Hospice 'Shaun on the Tyne' art project goes live from 19th July to 27th September. Our Eastlea Shaun called **OWLET** will be part of this trail. If you want to go and find him then he can be seen at the **Biscuit Factory in Newcastle** which is **FREE** to enter. Directions to the Biscuit Factory are included in a separate PDF document.

- There are lots of events being arranged as part of the Natural History Society of Northumbria (NHSN) this summer. Below is a link to their online nature journal, it is downloadable and interactive. There are lots of fun activities which would be perfect for families over the summer holidays. To find out what is on and how you can get involved follow the link: <https://www.nhsn.org.uk/young-north-east-naturalist-journal/>



- Good luck to the KS2 pupils who are taking part in the **Woodhorn Summer STEM club** from Monday 31st July – Friday 4th August. We will look forward to hearing all about it when we return from the summer holidays!



- Our Year 5 pupils have been involved in supporting with the development of ideas for a play called '**RAVEN**', written by an Eastlea parent. The play will be performed at the Alphabetti Theatre in Newcastle from Tuesday 15th August to Saturday 2nd September at 1pm each day with an additional 6pm performance each Saturday. Year 5 already know all about this, but if anyone else would like to see the production then please use the following link to find out about tickets: <https://www.alphabettitheatre.co.uk/raven>

"Join Raven on a journey of bravery and discovery as she begins to understand her feelings, learns how to regulate them, and breaks out of the shadows into the beauty and freedom of her wild-hearted self.

A beautiful and mischievous show focused on children's mental health for children and their adults, filled with live music, puppetry, and a talking gargoyle."

- Two of our Y5 pupils are themselves taking part in another theatre production right at the start of the autumn term. '**Oliver**' is being performed at the Tyne Theatre and Opera House in Newcastle from Wednesday 6th – Saturday 9th September. Our pupils will be on stage for the Wednesday and Saturday evening performances. We wish them well with their rehearsals this summer. Tickets for this show can be booked using this link: <https://www.eventim.co.uk/event/oliver-tyne-theatre-opera-house-16393915/>



- Special travel offers are available** on bus and metro fares this summer across the region, which could help families enjoy low-cost days out.

Anyone 21 and under can travel for a £1 single fare. [Get round for a pound on the bus goes live for young people 21 and under | nexus.org.uk](https://nexus.org.uk/get-round-for-a-pound-on-the-bus-goes-live-for-young-people-21-and-under)

Up to 3 children aged 11 and under can travel free with one fare paying adult.

nexus.org.uk/bus/take-kids-free

In addition, the £2 adult single fare has been extended until the 31st October 2023 and can be used in conjunction with the above offers.

Tapestry and Seesaw update

Over the summer the Tapestry and Seesaw systems will be updated. There are some changes to the way that these online services will be run from September, but they will be inactive over the summer holiday until a few days before the start of the new school year. If you have an urgent message to share with us then the admin email and school Facebook page will be monitored periodically over the school holidays.

School lunches from September

We are all aware how much the cost of everything, including food has gone up in recent times. Despite this, I am pleased to say that we are aiming to keep the price of school meals the same for as long we can. So, from September, the costs for those parents who pay for school meals will remain the same: **£2.20 for Nursery** and **£2.50 for Year 3 to Year 6 lunches**. Money should be paid on the day/week that lunches are taken.

Can we also remind everyone that due to allergies experienced by some children at Eastlea we need to reinforce our **NO NUTS in school policy**. Children who bring in food for packed lunches / snacks need to ensure that these are nut free at all times to protect the health and safety of everyone in school (this includes anything with Nutella and some cereal bars). Thank you for your support with this.

And finally...end of term at 2pm on Friday 21st July

Please remember that the pupils will finish school at 2pm on Friday for the end of term. I'm sure the children won't forget!!

I would like to once again thank everyone for their support this year. I hope that you have a safe and restful summer holiday before we return on 5th September! A copy of the term dates for 2023-2024 is included below for your reference.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher

EASTLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY LIST FOR 2023 / 24

| <u>HOLIDAY OR OCCASION OF CLOSURE</u> | <u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL CLOSE</u> | <u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL REASSEMBLE</u> |
|--|--|--|
| Summer 2023 <u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u> | Friday 21 July 2023 <u>MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2023</u> | Tuesday 5 September 2023 |
| October Mid-Term 2023 <u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u> | Thursday 26 October 2023 <u>FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER 2023</u> | Monday 6 November 2023 |
| Christmas/New Year 2023/2024 <u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u> | Friday 22 December 2023 <u>MONDAY 8 JANUARY 2024</u> | Tuesday 9 January 2024 |
| Spring Mid-Term 2024 | Friday 16 February 2024 | Monday 26 February 2024 |
| Easter 2024 | Thursday 28 March 2024 | Monday 15 April 2024 |
| <u>MAY DAY</u> | <u>MONDAY 6 MAY 2024</u> | |
| Summer Mid-Term 2024 | Friday 24 May 2024 | Monday 3 June 2024 |
| Summer 2024 | Friday 19 July 2024 | Monday 2 September 2024 |