



Dear Parents/Carers,

This week is a busy one with the presentation of our spring term writing and maths awards, the Rocksteady class bands and singing club / violins concerts, a badminton festival for Y6 at Cramlington Sporting Club and our parent appointments which were very well attended – thank you!

Tomorrow we have our Golden Day which brings the spring term to an end – don't forget we finish at 2pm for the start of the Easter holidays.

Fundraising – thank you!

- A fortnight ago we enjoyed our Red Nose Day and the break time treats. The final total raised for **Comic Relief** was **£105**.
- The 'chocolate Easter raffle' tickets have also been sold in large numbers already – the raffle will be drawn in classes on Thursday afternoon as part of Golden Day so there is still time to get your tickets/money in tomorrow morning. All proceeds go towards our future Golden Day funds.

FSM vouchers

We have been informed by county that HUGGG vouchers will be available over the Easter holiday for those families eligible for benefit based free school meals. It is likely that this will be the penultimate time vouchers can be provided. There has been a delay in getting the funds transferred from NCC, but please look out for an email notification later today/tomorrow so that you can activate and use the vouchers over the holiday period. Remember these vouchers have an expiry date of 30th April and NCC have asked us to reinforce the following message:

Please ensure this voucher is used for its intended purpose only. The voucher must not be sold, passed on or used for any other purpose. If you are not able to use it, or do not require the vouchers for food/clothing please contact the school and arrange for its return. Northumberland County Council reserve the right to carry out checks to ensure the vouchers are used for their intended purpose, and by accepting this voucher you agree to these checks being undertaken. If anyone is found to mis-use the voucher Northumberland County Council may take action to recover the money, in full, from you as well as taking any other action they deem appropriate.

Staff update

On Thursday we will be sorry to say farewell to Mrs McInnes who has supported children in KS2 classes at Eastlea for many, many years. Mrs McInnes has been a very valued member of our staff team and we will all miss her. She is retiring early to spend more time with her family and we wish her every good wish for the future! After Easter Miss Atkinson (*not to be confused with Mrs Atkinson from Reception!!*) will be providing some class based support in Year 4 as a temporary measure.

On a happier note, Mrs Lobb who has supported children in Year 2 since September, welcomed the safe arrival of her first child a couple of weeks ago – we are delighted for her and her family! Since February half term Mrs Rudland has been supporting pupils in KS1 and after Easter we will also be joined by Mrs Milloy who will provide additional Nursery support in the afternoons for the summer term.

Easter holiday activities

- During the Easter Holidays we hope as many children as possible can join in with the **School Games Easter Activity Challenge!** We have made real progress with the number of children getting involved with an increase from 19 at Christmas to **47** in February...can we beat this total? Please encourage your child to take part and return the coloured 'Easter egg' after the holidays!
- We know that several of our pupils have already signed up for sporting activities over Easter, some of which are free and include a hot meal during the day. I do hope those who are taking part in the **Rocket camps** or **rugby sessions** enjoy themselves!

Northumberland School Games Easter Activity Challenge



- Can you complete activities and decorate the Easter egg?
- Choose activities from each list. As you complete each activity colour one of the sections of the egg.
- Return your completed sheet to school after the holidays to get your certificate

Get ACTIVE - Pink

- Take part in an Easter Egg Hunt
- Play a ball game with family or friends
- Climb, hang, slide and swing at the local park
- Use your scooter or bike to visit family or friends
- Go for a walk with your family
- Make up a dance to your favourite song

Be SOCIAL - Yellow

- Challenge your family and friends to an egg and spoon race
- Hold a teddy bear's picnic
- Make something Easter themed to give as a present
- Help with some jobs around the house
- Bake or help cook a meal with a family member
- Plant some bulbs, seeds or flowers

Engage your BRAIN - Blue

- Try Geocaching with an adult
- Decorate an egg
- Make and play a board game
- Learn a magic trick and show it to family or friends
- Whist outdoors, find something starting with each letter of the alphabet
- Read a book
- Write a poem or story

Go OUTDOORS - Green

- Look for baby animals
- Fly a kite
- Visit a beach, woods or the countryside
- Search for a rainbow
- Whist outdoors, listen for 10 different things you can hear
- Watch a sunrise or sunset



#MAKEACTIVEMEMORIES

- We have also been sent information from the **Family Hub** about activities in Northumberland available for families over Easter – we have attached a PDF of the whole document with this newsletter.
- Miss Smith (Sports Partnership) has shared further information about local Inclusive Easter holiday opportunities from **NCC's Ability2Play** and **Smile Through Sport**. Again two flyers are attached with this newsletter.
- **Timestep Activity Centres** in Blyth, Seaton Delaval and Holywell are also running packages of activity sessions, some of which are free. A poster is attached and please use the online booking link if you are interested: <https://forms.gle/zQdn89Q6SKUUNA8i7>

Reminder...Year 5 and Year 6 Eastlea STEM Communities Project

- Some families of pupils in Y5/Y6 have already signed up to take part in an Eastlea STEM Communities project at Woodhorn Museum. This is a follow up to the STEM Mars robot challenges which took place in the school hall earlier this month. **The next session at Woodhorn is on Tuesday 9th April.** Any families who are planning to attend must contact Liz Ferguson (Learning Manager) to book a place by emailing stem@museumsnorthumberland.org.uk by **Tuesday 2nd April.** Even if you did not attend the Mars robot workshops in school you can still join in the Woodhorn activities.
- Remember... when you book, Liz will need to know how many of your family are coming and any dietary requirements as you will have a **FREE lunch** on the day. A bus is also being provided which will leave Eastlea at 10am and return from Woodhorn at 2.30pm so please let Liz know if this is something you wish to use too.
- This is a great opportunity for our Y5/Y6 children and their families...the aim is to encourage a community of families interested in science, technology, engineering and maths. No experience or background knowledge of STEM is needed, just an interest in finding out more! As part of the session on 9th April there will be some activities to take part in plus a chance to be shown around Woodhorn and receive an annual pass so you can return as often as you wish!

Year 5 residential visit to Hawkhirst

For parents/carers of pupils in Year 5 please don't forget that Monday 15th April (the first day of the new term) is the date when the children set off to Hawkhirst for their 3 day residential visit. Miss Fox has confirmed all the arrangements for this exciting adventure!

Happy Easter and Golden Day reminder

Golden Day takes place on **Thursday** (tomorrow – and this is the last day of term). It is a non-uniform day with no particular theme and no fine to pay. If your child is a winner in the Easter raffle then they will bring their prize home that afternoon. **Remember the children finish early at 2pm** (except for morning Nursery pupils who finish at the usual time of 11.50am)

I hope you all have a good break over the holidays and we look forward to seeing everyone back when Eastlea reopens for all pupils on Monday 15th April.

Miss Beeston, Head Teacher

