



Dear Parents/Carers,

Although not all pupils and staff were able to return after the half term break due to Covid isolation, the second half of the autumn term did start positively for the majority of the Eastlea 'team' and thank you for your support for our increased 'Covid secure' measures which we alerted you to on 1st November.

At a 'virtual' meeting for all Northumberland Head Teachers on Friday afternoon, schools were encouraged to continue to follow the county guidance at the moment in response to the increase in infection rates over recent weeks. The situation is reviewed fortnightly and as a result of these procedures and the increased number of secondary school children being vaccinated they do hope that measures MAY be able to ease before Christmas – but we will keep you informed every step of the way.

In the meantime, at Eastlea the children are doing a super job of maintaining their hand washing/sanitising routines, classrooms are well ventilated, indoor class mixing has been reduced and the amended lunchtime routines are running smoothly. THANK YOU!

Enterprise Fund sponsored events

We had a tremendous response to our sponsored enterprise events which took place in the final week of Active October. The children who raised £10 or more in sponsorship money were presented with special certificates and each class was delighted to hear on Friday how much they had raised. Each year group now has their 'pot' of Enterprise money to use to fund activities, resources or events which they choose! The overall total is still growing as more money comes in, but currently stands at an incredible **£2336.80!** THANK YOU!

School Admissions for Reception 2022 – a reminder

For parents of pupils due to start in Reception next September please remember that the admissions portal opened on 1st November and closes on 15th January. It is very important that you complete an application for a place as soon as possible. **Even if your child currently attends our Eastlea Nursery then you must make an admissions application for a place in Reception September 2022.** The information about this is all on the Northumberland County Council website (school admissions) and you will receive confirmation of places on 15th April 2022. If anyone requires help with this process then please contact Mrs Shimmin or Miss Beeston in school.

Clubs and events for this half term

We have an action packed programme of clubs for this half term and most letters about these have been sent out. As we explained in the Covid update letter – for those clubs which involve more than one year group and take place indoors we will aim to 'bubble' the year groups separately. Those which take place outside will run as normal.

Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Breakfast Club (7.30 – 8.45am each day). <i>This costs £2.50 per day.</i> 	KS2 Professional football coaching for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Tuesdays (£2 per session)	'Team sports' club for Y1/Y2 on Tuesdays
		Bike club for Y5/Y6 on Tuesdays (from 16 th November for 4 weeks)
		Grassroots Gymnastics club for Reception to Y6 on Tuesday evenings (5.30 – 7.00pm) . <i>This costs £5.00 per session</i>
Owlets toddler group for pre-school children and their parents/carers/ childminders: Thursdays 9.00 – 10.30am in the school hall <i>Sessions cost £3.00 plus 50p per extra child.</i> 	Rugby Rocket Tots for Y1/Y2 on Wednesdays (£2 per session)	Singing Club for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Wednesdays
	Woodland Walk club for a different year group each week on Wednesdays	Fiddles Progression lessons for group of Y4 on Wednesdays
Street Dance Club for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Thursdays from 8am in the school hall	Running Club for Y4, Y5, and Y6 on a rota basis on Thursdays	Basketball club for Y5/Y6 on Thursdays

As you can imagine the increased Covid measures makes it difficult to plan ahead with any certainty, but we still aim to continue with as much of the schedule of activities as possible for the children this half term. **Some events will not be able to be confirmed until nearer the time depending how the Covid situation develops** but a list of what is planned is included below:

What's on	When and who?
Poppies for sale for Royal British Legion	From Monday 1 st – Friday 12 th November (whole school coordinated by Y6)
Educational visit to Nissan Monozukuri Caravan workshop	Monday 1 st November
Weekly swimming lessons	Monday afternoons from 1 st – 29 th November (Year 5)
Gymnastics coaching in PE lessons	Monday afternoons from 1 st November (Y3/Y6) Wednesday afternoons from 3 rd November (Y1/Y2) Friday afternoons from 10 th September (Reception/Y4)
Rocksteady class band sessions	Continuing on Tuesday mornings from 2 nd November (class rota and participation depending on interest)
Basketball coaching in PE lessons	Tuesday afternoons from 2 nd November (Y3/Y6) Thursday afternoons from 4 th November (Y4/Y5)
Educational visit to Washington Wetlands	Wednesday 3 rd November (Year 5)
Specialist French tuition	Wednesday afternoons for Y4/Y6 from 3 rd November
Specialist Music tuition	Wednesday afternoons for Reception/Y1/Y4/Y5 from 3 rd November led by Mrs Allenby and Ms Hedley
'Nissan in a box' workshop	Morning of Tuesday 9 th November (Year 3)
Dr Bike return visit	Friday 12 th November
Friendship week – "One kind word"	w/b Monday 15 th November
Full day 'Stone Age Camp' activity session	Monday 15 th November (Year 3)
Anti-bullying workshop and/or virtual assemblies	Wednesday 17 th November (Year 6 / rest of school)
Children in Need 'Pennies for Pudsey' fundraising event plus anti-bullying 'odd socks day'	Friday 19th November – whole school [dress up day – Pudsey/odd socks... separate letter will be sent out...please bring in coins]
Nasal spray 'flu immunisations	Monday 22 nd November (Reception to Year 6)
Kielder science workshops at Eastlea	Monday 29 th November (Year 1 to Year 6)
Non-uniform day to bring in raffle prizes for the Christmas Raffle	Friday 26 th November – whole school
Presentation of autumn term Writing Awards	Wednesday 1 st December
Virtual Christmas Fair and Eastlea Christmas Jumper day	Friday 3rd December – whole school
Presentation of autumn term Maths awards	Wednesday 8 th December
Christmas lunch for pupils	Thursday 9th December
'Remote Christmas' virtual event including School Games 'Santa Dash'	Friday 10 th December
Class based Christmas parties <i>[more details to follow...we will be asking for a £1 donation per child to fund refreshments]</i>	Monday 13 th December – afternoon (Y3 and Y4) Tuesday 14 th December – afternoon (Y1 and Y2) Wednesday 15 th December – morning (Nursery) Wednesday 15 th December – afternoon (Reception) Friday 17 th December (Y5 and Y6)

What's on	When and who?
Church nativity service – <u>Only if Covid restrictions allow?</u>	Morning of Wednesday 15 th December – Reception to Year 6 <u>[pupils/staff only if Covid restrictions allow]</u>
GOLDEN DAY	Thursday 16 th December
Pupils break up for the Christmas holidays – <u>early finish at 2pm</u>	Friday 17 th December – <u>at 2pm</u>
Staff Training Day	Tuesday 4 th January 2022
Pupils return for the spring term	Wednesday 5 th January 2022

Christmas events

You will see from the outline list of proposed events that we are again restricted in terms of what we can do as a whole school and for obvious reasons we are being advised to limit occasions when parents/carers/wider family members are invited onto the school site. This clearly has an impact on the Eastlea Christmas.

We will modify activities where we can so that the children still have the opportunity to enjoy the festive season in school, e.g. the virtual Christmas Fair, the class based parties, Christmas lunch at class based tables. We will NOT be able to perform our usual Christmas productions for everyone in the hall, but are working on recording productions for each key stage which will be shared with you as we did last year.

Pupil progress updates

Remember, as we cannot have formal face to face parents' appointments in school in the usual format, **class teachers will be contacting you to outline how they will be updating you on how your child is settling in and the progress they are making.** This may be informally face to face, via phone or in writing.

Parking

Please continue to park considerately without blocking roads/driveways and aim to use the 'park and stride' opportunity from the Church of Nazarene where possible to avoid congestion outside of school. Thank you!

Support for Families

We are regularly provided with details about support in the local community for families – and have a few items to mention which you may find useful.

- Hope Centre – Uniform bank

We are fortunate to have a very successful local uniform bank which provides FREE school uniform and other clothing/equipment for children for anyone who requires it. Please see the information below and go and visit them if you or anyone you know needs uniform for any Cramlington school.

- Northumberland Communities Together

This organisation (based locally at the Community Hub in Cramlington) is leading a 'Get Ready for Winter' package of support. If you are worried about staying warm, winter bills, feeling lonely or struggling with family pressures then you can get in touch with them via phone, email or by dropping into the Hub.

Phone **01670 620015** (9am – 6pm 7 days a week) or email communitiestogether@northumberland.gov.uk

- Online safety at home

A newsletter from 'THINK U KNOW' is attached on the reverse of this sheet. This was shared with schools last week and has some important reminders and links for how you can safely manage what your child is accessing online.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Beeston, **Head Teacher**

HOPE CENTRE UNIFORM & BABY BANK
Keeping It Local
 Serving Cramlington and District
 Forum Way, Cramlington
 NE23 6SJ
 Email: hope1uniform@gmail.com
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
10:00–14:00

**Nursery Furniture, Equipment and
 Baby Wear
 Referral only**



Online safety at home: Parents/Carers newsletter

Thinkuknow is the national online safety education programme from the National Crime Agency. Thinkuknow offers learning activities, advice and support for children and young people aged 4-18 and their families.

With some children still learning from home, they will be spending more time online doing their school work, playing games or watching videos. Technology is hugely valuable for education, as well as a way to keep in touch with friends and family. However it's important we all consider how we can support children's online safety. Here's some information about what your child may enjoy online and what you can do to help keep them safer:

Sharing pictures

Using devices like phones and tablets to share pictures and videos can be a great way for children to have fun and stay in touch with friends and family.

It's really important your child knows what's ok to share online and what they should check with you first.

Read [younger children sharing pictures or videos online](#) for more information on the risks and how to support safer sharing.

Watching videos

Children love to watch videos and YouTube is always a firm favourite! But sometimes children can be exposed to videos that are not meant for them.

[YouTube Kids](#) is a safer way for children to explore their interests. You can find more information about this on [YouTube: what parents need to know](#).

Remember, primary-age children should be supervised at all times when online.

More information?

Thinkuknow is the education programme from the National Crime Agency's Child Protection Command CEOP (NCA-CEOP) whose aim is to protect children and young people from sexual abuse online.

For more information, advice and guidance, visit their [parents website](#) and download their [home activity worksheets](#) for fun, online safety activities to do with your family.

Steps you can take to help keep your child safer online

Parental controls: Parental controls have been designed to help you manage your child's online activities. There are various types, some of which are free but others which can be bought. However, nothing is totally fool proof so this shouldn't replace the support and guidance you give your child to help keep them safer. For more information and step by step instructions on setting up parental controls, visit [Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides - Internet Matters](#).

Supervise their online activity: Keep the devices your child uses in communal areas of the house such as the living room or kitchen, where an adult is able to supervise. Primary-age children should not access the internet in private spaces alone, such as in a bedroom or bathroom.

Explore together and chat little and often: Ask your child to show you their favourite apps, games and sites and encourage them to teach you how to use these. Ask them if anything ever worries them online. Make sure they know they won't be in trouble and can get help by talking to you or another adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel worried, sad or scared.

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