

Eastlea update - 3/4/20

Dear Parents/Carers,

This is my second update following the Coronavirus closure and I wanted to start by thanking everyone for their feedback to our school **'Rainbow Video'** which at the time of writing has been viewed 6000 times online! We are so pleased that it made everyone smile (and/or cry!) and it certainly kept the staff entertained last weekend as we provided footage for Miss Betham who put the finished product together!

'Easter holiday' activities

Although everything feels very strange, it is important to remember that next Monday is the start of what would have been the Easter holidays. We are aware of the hard work that has been going on in so many households as you aim to keep your child(ren) in a routine of school work. The work and comments shared with staff on both Tapestry and Seesaw have helped everyone to keep in touch which has been great. During the Easter holiday fortnight, our **'Easter activities grid'** might enable you to have some 'fun' at home as we know how difficult it is for children to be indoors/away from their friends. These are on the school website and will also be shared via Seesaw/Tapestry.



We recommend reducing the amount of 'formal' work done so that you can relax a bit more as a family. More structured Maths/English 'lessons' will resume after the Easter break.

Access to childcare at school

The number of parents needing to use the childcare at Eastlea over this past week has dropped even further and over the Easter holidays we will only be open for a few half day sessions to provide respite for some vulnerable children. For those who are critical workers or parents of vulnerable pupils then as from 20th April we will again be open every day for those who need us to be. It is important that you confirm which days/times you need your child(ren) to be here so that adequate staffing is on hand for supervision.

Lunches for pupils entitled to Free School meals

Further information regarding the government funded term time 'food voucher scheme' for parents/carers of pupils entitled to benefit based Free School Meals was received this week. For those involved, you will have received an email from school yesterday with further details and it is hoped that the first vouchers will begin to arrive today and then from the first day after the Easter holiday period. If you have any queries linked to this then please contact me in school and I will do my best to help.

Please note that after today, due to the voucher scheme, the kitchen will not be providing any more packed lunches for collection/delivery.

Online safety

We have been sent a reminder from the police about the potential dangers associated with increased online activity at the current time. A poster about this has been shared on the school Facebook account. The simple message is a reminder for parents/carers to carefully monitor their child's online activity always, but even more so at this anxious period. This will help protect as many of our young people as possible from the threat of terrorism, radicalisation (and other forms of grooming).

Take care, stay safe and look out for each other. If you think we can help in any way over the Easter period then please get in touch via Facebook message, email or Seesaw/Tapestry.

Yours sincerely,
Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher

