



Dear Parents/Carers,

Friday will mark the end of the summer term at Eastlea and 'bring the curtain down' on another school year. 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...pupils and staff

- Today parents/family members, staff and governors will be attending the Year 6 Leavers' celebration event in the school hall. We wish all our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck at whichever 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.
- We also say farewell to some children from Nursery and other year groups who are moving to different schools from September. I know they are sad to have to leave us and we will miss them very much. We hope you all settle well in your new schools and look forward to hearing about how you are getting on in the future.
- From September we are delighted that Miss Betham will be back in her class teacher role in Year 2 and we have been pleased to see her back in school for the last few weeks of this term too. Friday will mark the last day at Eastlea for Miss Gaddes who has done a super job as class teacher in Year 2 since September. I am pleased to report that Miss Gaddes has been successful in securing another job and will be joining a special school in North Tyneside as a KS1 class teacher. She has loved her time at Eastlea, and I know has built up good relationships with pupils and staff. We will be sad to see her go and wish her well in her new role.

Reading Challenge and Champion Readers

We have again had good 'totals' for awards in our Castles Reading Challenge' at the end of the year with **216 bronze, 182 silver and 156 gold award winners**. Tomorrow we will be presenting Champion Reader awards to those pupils who have kept reading / getting their reading record signed for at least another 8 weeks, even after they have achieved their gold award and without regular staff reminders! If your child comes home with a gold balloon tomorrow then they are Champion Reader and should be very proud of themselves.



Over the summer we would again encourage your child(ren) to get involved in the reading challenge run by the local libraries. We have already shared information about the '**Story Garden**' holiday challenge which encourages children to borrow and read 6 books throughout the summer holidays. There are lots of prizes and incentives on offer and it is not too late to get started. Children can either enrol at their local library or online at www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Mrs Lister will reward the children who complete the challenge with a summer reading picnic in September. This challenge is always very well supported by the Eastlea children and I wonder how many will complete it this summer?

Golden Day reminder

On Thursday we will be having our end of year 'Inflatables' Golden Day. Everyone is looking forward to a great day of fun on the field and edible treats. All the details were provided in the previous letter (see Seesaw/Tapestry/school website). School uniform is not required on Thursday and there is no fine to pay. Please make sure your child wears something suitable for 'bouncing' and does not wear any jewellery for school so they can go on the inflatables. Remember if they wish to have the Golden Day lunch of **burger in a bun, chips, juice and ice lolly** then money for this needs to be paid by tomorrow for those in KS2 classes or full day Nursery.

N.B. Don't forget that Y6 pupils are being dismissed at 3pm after Golden Day so they have time to get home/changed/back to school to head out for their Leavers meal at Sambucas at 4pm.

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

HUGGG vouchers are again being provided for the upcoming summer holiday and these were distributed yesterday and have an expiry date of 26th September. These holiday vouchers are funded by UK Government DWP Household Support Fund and we have been asked to share the following information:

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.

School uniform – a reminder

Most parents/carers who ordered uniform or PE tracksuits in recent weeks have received their items already. Any further orders can be made directly with Emblematic via the Eastlea order link:

<https://studentuniform.co.uk/eastlea-primary-school/>

As Eastlea is a new school to the online ordering system please use this link rather than going through other routes to their website so that you can get any items you require delivered to your home address over the summer.

We do still have just a few items in school in some sizes if anyone has realised they have forgotten to order. Once they are gone, there will be no more items available directly from school.

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 or ****PLAIN totally black trainers**

***We will continue to allow plain totally black trainers as part of school uniform. Plain black trainers can therefore be worn on both uniform and PE days to avoid families having the expense of buying a pair of school shoes AND a different pair of trainers. If you wish to continue with black school shoes (for uniform days) and a different pair of trainers for PE days (another colour) that is fine.*

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.*** Clear plastic spacers can be worn in school if required once ears are pierced and these can be obtained from the school office if needed.

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** 

Payment of outstanding dinner and breakfast club money

A reminder that if you have any money left to pay for breakfast club sessions or school dinners then **tomorrow is the deadline for payment**. All balances have to be cleared before the end of the school year. THANK YOU!

Seesaw and Tapestry update

The Tapestry and Seesaw systems 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.

In the last week of the summer holiday the Seesaw systems will be updated to 'move children up' to their next class. Miss Betham is regaining her oversight of the Seesaw system so any whole school announcements will no longer come from Miss Beeston.

Looking ahead to September

- **Breakfast club:** From September the price per child per day will remain the same as this year as long as money is paid on time to allow us to fund the staff salaries and food costs.
 - **£3.00** if a booking is made a day or more in advance.
 - **£3.50** if children just turn up on the day with no advance booking made.
- **School lunches:** We are aiming to keep the price of school meals the same in September at least initially – but are aware that with increased food costs this may have to be looked at again during the academic year. The costs for those parents/carers who pay for school meals will be: **£2.20 for Nursery** and **£2.50 for Year 3 to Year 6 lunches**. Money must be paid on the day/week that lunches are taken. If money is not paid and debts start to build then parents will be asked to provide a packed lunch for their child/children until the balance is paid off.

For those who bring packed lunches, please can sweets, multiple chocolate biscuits etc be avoided as again we wish to promote healthier options. 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 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.

- **Breaktime fruit:** For KS2 classes we will be continuing with our 'fruit/vegetables' only policy for break time snacks. This has worked so much better this term and it has been lovely to see the range of healthy items brought in by the children as well as significantly reducing the amount of litter on the school site. Thank you. For pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 free break time fruit/vegetable snacks will continue to be provided. Nursery snack items are organised by Early Years staff for a small charge and parents can get details of this from Mrs Shimmin.



- **Water bottles:** Can we again remind everyone that water bottles should be brought to school each day containing **WATER only** and not transported in reading folders. Having juice instead of water is not good for dental health and also makes a real mess if there are spillages in the classrooms. *If there is a particular reason why this will be a problem for your child then this will need to be discussed with your child's class teacher and we will see what we can do to support.* Metal water bottles tend to last longer and are less easy to break, although we are aware that they are a little more expensive. Also, please can we ask that water bottles are of a **standard size**! Some of the newer brands of water bottles are enormous and we do not have space to store them. Thank you for your support with this.
- **Cuddly toys, chew necklaces, squishies, 'fidget toys' etc:** Can we ask that from September you continue to support us by encouraging your child to leave their 'toys' at home. Bringing toys into the classroom can make things hard to manage and distract the children from their learning. Leaving them at home also avoids the potential upset caused if personal items go missing in school. *If your child has a professionally diagnosed condition which means they require an item in school then please discuss this with your child's class teacher.* Thank you!

- **Attendance / punctuality:** thank you for all your support with encouraging good patterns of attendance for your child(ren) this year. The high profile on good attendance will continue from September and we ask that your child is in school every day and on time. The doors will be continue to open at 8.45am and teacher led classroom learning will start from 8.50am so please make sure your child is here by 8.45am each morning so they don't miss the vital start to the school day. Thank you in advance.

N.B. A copy of the Eastlea term dates is included below which should help in planning family holidays avoiding term time.

EASTLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY LIST FOR 2025 / 26

<u>HOLIDAY OR OCCASION OF CLOSURE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL CLOSE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL REASSEMBLE</u>
Summer 2025 <u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u>	Friday 18 July 2025 <u>MONDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2025</u>	Tuesday 2 September 2025
October Mid-Term 2025 <u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u>	Thursday 23 October 2025 <u>FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER 2025</u>	Monday 3 November 2025
Christmas/New Year 2025/2026 <u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u>	Friday 19 December 2025 <u>MONDAY 5 JANUARY 2026</u>	Tuesday 6 January 2026
Spring Mid-Term 2026	Friday 13 February 2026	Monday 23 February 2026
Easter 2026	Thursday 2 April 2026	Monday 20 April 2026
<u>MAY DAY</u>	<u>MONDAY 4 MAY 2026</u>	
Summer Mid-Term 2026	Friday 22 May 2026	Monday 1 June 2026
Summer 2026	Friday 17 July 2026	Tuesday 1 September 2026

And finally...end of term at 2pm on Friday 18th 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!! **School uniform is required on the last day of term please.**

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 the children return on Tuesday 2nd September!

Yours sincerely,
Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher