



Dear Parents / Carers,

We had a successful return for the start of the spring term last week and were pleased to welcome new starters in Nursery as well as some in other classes. For any families who are new to Eastlea I hope that you are happy with the way your child has settled and if you have any questions then please approach staff directly so we can help.

School uniform, PE kits

The Eastlea children continue to be very smartly presented in their school uniform and/or PE kits on the relevant days each week. A reminder that trainers should only be worn on PE days and that at other times black school shoes are required. We do have some school tracksuit bottoms and hoodies with the Eastlea owl logo in stock if anyone needs them. Any other tracksuits worn on PE days need to be **PLAIN** dark blue – lighter colours, stripes or large logos are not permitted. Thank you!

At the moment the class PE days are:

Reception = Friday **Y1** = Wednesday **Y2** = Wednesday/Friday **Y3** = Monday/Tuesday

Y4 = Friday (and swimming kits needed on Monday) **Y5** = Monday/Thursday **Y6** = Tuesday/ Thursday

Class teachers will keep you updated with any changes to this or extra days when PE kits are required.

Jewellery

As you know jewellery is not permitted in school. We had some instances last week of children wearing bracelets or necklaces. Please can these be left at home. Earrings should not be worn in school either. Plastic spacers are fine to be worn (and are available from the school office if required), but there should be no earrings. Thank you!

Attendance

As part of a national initiative to promote school attendance you may have noticed the banner near to the main school gates which highlights the Northumberland attendance strategy. This was explained to the children last week and our aim is to increase our attendance rates at Eastlea which can only be done with your support.



A letter is being sent to all Cramlington families which has been agreed by all the schools in the town. A paper copy of this letter is being sent home today as well as being shared via Tapestry/Seesaw. If you have any questions about this then please contact me in school.

Scooters, bikes and cars

Once again this January we have been pleased to see several pupils coming to school on scooters and bikes newly acquired over Christmas. Please make sure that any that are left on the school site are securely locked on the bike/scooter racks in order to keep them safe. Helmets can be left in school during the day if required.

As always, please can I also remind those who come to school by car where possible to use the Church of the Nazarene carpark to ease congestion in the roads around the school. Please avoid parking cars on narrow estate roads which cause a hazard to local residents and real issues for any emergency vehicles which need access to the estate. Cars should only be left unattended during drop off and collection times and not for extended periods. Thank you for your support with this.

Reading

Reading remains a top priority at Eastlea. We know there will be more bronze awards winners this term and we will also be presenting the first of the SILVER Planets reading challenge awards at the end of this half term. Please continue to encourage your child to read at home each week and support them by signing their reading record books. Remember that reading books that are brought home, especially those which are part of our RWInc scheme for younger readers should continue to be well looked after and returned to school in good condition ready for the next child who will need them. Costs are high if any books need to be replaced. THANK YOU.

Careers focus fortnight – any offers of help?

Later this half term we are having a fortnight which will involve a focus on careers and an opportunity for pupils, at age appropriate levels, to explore different opportunities for their future training, study or employment.

We are wondering whether there are any parents / family members who may be able to help us with this to share some of their experience and knowledge with the children about careers. This could take the form of providing a photo/information about their employment, sharing a video message with their child's class, sharing information/resources about the world of work or even coming into school for a Q&A session with some pupils? If anyone can help with this please let your child's class teacher know or speak to Miss Beeston. It would be great to have some family members involved!



We are discussing this further at our staff meeting on Thursday this week so please can you let us know before then if you are willing or able to support us with this. Thank you!

Events, dates for the diary and clubs planned for this half term

The staff continue to work hard to ensure that we provide a wide range of activities for the children at Eastlea. A list of planned events for this half term is included overleaf. Further details will be sent out about some of the activities where required nearer the time.

Clubs for this half term

Many of our clubs start this week. Most letters about these have already been sent out and brought home by the children.

Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Breakfast Club (7.30 – 8.45am each day). This costs £2.50 per day. 	KS2 Professional football coaching for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Tuesdays (£2 per session)	<i>NUFC Foundation club for on Mondays – details still to be confirmed</i> Ball skills club for Y1 and Y2 on Tuesdays Munchie Maths Booster club for Y6 on Tuesdays [starting from 23 rd January]
Bacon butty Literacy Booster club for Y6 on Wednesdays from 8am in the Y6 classroom [starting from 24 th January]	Professional football coaching for Rec/Y1/Y2 on Wednesdays (£2 per session)	Singing Club for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on Wednesdays
Street Dance Club for Reception on Wednesdays from 8am in the school hall	Woodland Walk club for a different year group each week on Wednesdays	KS2 Violins Progression lessons group on Wednesdays
Owlets toddler group for pre-school children and their parents/carers/ childminders: Thursdays 9.00 – 10.30am in the school hall Sessions cost £3.00 plus 50p per extra child. 	Running Club for Y4, Y5 and Y6 on a rota basis on Fridays	Badminton club for Y5/Y6 on Thursdays

Yours sincerely,
Miss E Beeston
Head Teacher

Events and Activities for the first half of the spring term 2024

What's on	When and who?
Hockey/dodgeball coaching	Tuesday afternoons from 9 th January (Y3 and Y6) Thursday afternoons from 11 th January (Y5)
'Bringing words to life' writing project	Wednesday mornings for a group from Y5/Y6 (10 th January) and then Y4/Y5 from 17 th January
Ball skills coaching	Wednesday afternoons from 10 th January (Y1 and Y2)
Specialist French tuition	Wednesday afternoons for Y5/Y6 led by Mme Taylor from 10 th January
Specialist Music tuition	Wednesday afternoons for Reception/Y2/Y4/Y5/Y6 from 10 th January led by Miss Midgley and Mrs Hedley
STEM person of the week – focus on people working with science, maths or technology	Weekly focus this half term from w/b 15 th January for Reception to Year 6
STEM session at Eagles Basketball arena	Morning of Monday 15 th January (Year 6)
NUFC Foundation football/team games workshops	Monday afternoons for Y3 and Y5 from 15 th January
Specialist Spanish tuition	Monday afternoons for Y3 led by CLV staff from 15 th January
Weekly swimming lessons	Monday afternoons from 15 th January (Year 4)
Rocksteady class band sessions	Continuing on Tuesday mornings from 16 th January
Skipping workshop	Morning of Tuesday 16 th January (Year 5)
Specialist art sessions	Tuesday afternoons led by Mrs Tweddle from 16 th January (Y6 and Y5)
Author workshop led by Lucy Wraight	Afternoon of Thursday 25 th January (Y1 and Y2)
RE Theme Day	Thursday 1 st February
NSPCC Number Day	Friday 2nd February
Maths / STEM / Careers focus	Fortnight beginning Monday 5th February (whole school)
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 6 th February
Presentation of first Planets reading challenge silver awards	Wednesday 14 th February
February GOLDEN DAY	Friday 16th February