



Dear Parents/Carers,

On Friday we come to the end of what has been another very strange and challenging year. It was devastating last week to have to ask 3 Eastlea classes to self-isolate due to potential contact with positive covid cases – and for some of those children their ‘school year’ in terms of daily face to face contact/interaction with their teacher and their peers has already finished. We had come so near to getting through the entire pandemic so far without having to do this, but as I said to the Year 6 parents yesterday the latest Delta variant of coronavirus has been far more transmissible and problematic for all schools and we could not escape.

### Thank you

In the light of the difficulties we have all faced I want to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone for their support, positive approach and willingness to get involved with everything we have tried to do to maintain as much of a normal Eastlea calendar of events this year as circumstances have allowed. School life has had to be very different, but our expectations have been clear, everyone has followed the guidelines and as a result we have managed to proceed with as much as we have felt it safe to do. Without your backing this would not have been possible – so thank you!

### Summer Fayre

Considering we did not have any visitors on site for our class based summer fayre, the fact that we managed to raise **£1115.50** from the raffle, class activities and games, refreshments, our gardening club plant stall and some kind donations is remarkable – THANK YOU once again!

### Eastlea Leavers

- Yesterday we had the Year 6 Leavers’ celebration event for all our Year 6 children and their families. Like last year this had to take place on the school yard, but unlike last year we were able to have more in the way of entertainment from Year 6 with a class dance, sea shanty, leavers song, steel pans, poem and even a French Haka!! We wish all of our Year 6 Leavers the very best of luck at CLV in September and know that if they believe in themselves and keep working hard they will achieve everything they set out to do.
- I would also like to say farewell to those in Nursery who are moving to other schools for their Reception year. I know they are very sad to have to leave us and we will miss them very much. We hope you settle well in your new schools and look forward to hearing about how you are getting on in the future.

### Reading Challenge and Champion Readers

Our ‘Rainbow reading challenge’ has been hugely successful this year. We have bumper ‘totals’ at the end of the year with **193 bronze, 186 silver and 160 gold award winners**. Today we presented Champion Reader awards to those leaving Eastlea from Year 6 and Nursery – these are for the pupils who just keep on reading, even when they have achieved their gold award! Well done to them all...there were 19 in total who will be proudly coming home with their gold balloons today!! Due to having 3 classes out of school for self-isolation we have explained to the children that we will be saving the presentation of the other Champion Reader balloons until September when we are all back together again...who knows we maybe even able to do this in the hall?!

Over the holidays the local libraries are running a summer reading challenge – this year the theme is ‘**Wild World Heroes**’. The challenge started on Saturday, it is free to join and runs throughout the summer holidays. There are lots of prizes and incentives on offer and we will reward the children who complete the challenge with a summer reading picnic in September. Please note that the Cramlington Library is now back in it’s previous ‘home’ but if you prefer you can also get involved ‘digitally’ with the challenge too.

### Golden Day reminder

Tomorrow we will be having our end of year Golden Day. I am so sorry that Y1/Y2/Y3 and other individuals who are isolating will be unable to take part – I know they will be really disappointed, but the 10 day period of self-isolation is out of our hands. As you know we have booked a range of large inflatable games and activities for the children to enjoy. All the details were provided in the previous letter (see school website) School uniform is not required, but it is important that they come dressed ready to ‘bounce’ and **wearing socks, and NO JEWELLERY** so they can use the bouncy castles safely (all classes). *We have also been advised that long trousers/leggings and a long sleeved top/sweatshirt to put on would be useful for the bungee run (all pupils except Nursery).*

We are hopeful that the forecast for tomorrow is good so please can you also make sure your child has **sun cream applied** and a **water bottle** as usual on the day. Lunch involves a ‘fast food picnic’ either outside or in their classrooms – chicken nuggets, chips, ice lolly and orange juice – payment arrangements remain the same as usual please for this day.

## Summer holiday items

- We will be hosting two Grassroots Summer Activity weeks at Eastlea in week 1 (19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July) and week 6 (23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August) of the summer holiday – these are for children across Cramlington and have been arranged independently of the school. If you need any further details or to confirm places then contact should be made via [www.grassrootssports.co.uk](http://www.grassrootssports.co.uk) or by phoning Keith (07703 533 556) or Sarah (07725 128 717).
- Regarding Covid, the other thing we need to ask is that if your child has been in school in the last week of term and develops any Covid symptoms/has a positive test outcome in the first weekend of the holiday then they should inform school staff in case any other children/families are potentially impacted. Fingers crossed this doesn't happen!

## September – plans and arrangements

I'm sure the start of the new school year will come around surprisingly quickly so it is worth reminding you that the autumn term for all pupils starts on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021.**

- Due to the increasing problems with the Covid situation we were unable to provide the children with the chance to meet the adults who will be working with them next year and their new classrooms. This was a real shame. We will do our best to ensure that towards the end of the summer holiday contact is made via Tapestry/Seesaw so that pictures/a video can be shared to show what the classrooms will be like in the new term – once the flooring work is completed.
- As you know we are clearing the classrooms ready for work to start on the replacement lino and carpet over the summer. This work is scheduled to take approx. 4-5 weeks (starting on 19<sup>th</sup> July) so we hope to use the final couple weeks of the 'holiday' to get the furniture back into the classrooms and re-adjust everything for whatever guidelines we are asked to follow for safety from September.
- I have learnt during this pandemic that it is best not to second guess any government advice which may be given at a particular time. At the moment the impact of the further relaxing of national restrictions on 19<sup>th</sup> July is not clear. We hope that we will be able to seat children in groups, and not have to keep all classes totally separate at breaks/lunchtimes in future, and also hope we can go back to our usual start/finish times for school rather than staggered entry and exit times. But, a lot can change between now and then, so **we will let you know exactly how things will work towards the end of August when risk assessments and protocols should be clearer.**
- I am also aware that holidays may not be something you are thinking about yet – but if you do, we are attaching a school holiday list for 2021-22 for reference so that you can make sure your child does not miss term time for anything you book. Thank you!

## School uniform – a reminder

Most parents who ordered uniform a short while ago have received their items already. We do still have a few items in stock in some sizes if anyone has realised they want any more sweatshirts, cardigans, bookbags etc. Remember that school uniform can also be obtained from the Hope Centre – see information below.

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)
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Grey/black trousers/shorts or skirt (leggings are not appropriate)
- Summer option – **blue** check/stripe dress
- Black school shoes – **NOT** trainers please.

### P.E. kit

- Plain white t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Black sandshoes or bare feet for indoor PE. (Trainers may be worn for outdoor P.E. and a dark tracksuit can also be worn)

## Jewellery... **A REMINDER ABOUT EARRINGS!!**

No jewellery can be worn in school and we have a policy of **NO EARRINGS IN SCHOOL.** ***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.***

**HOPE CENTRE UNIFORM &  
BABY BANK**



Our uniform bank was set up by local people who want good quality pre-worn school uniform to be freely available to students at our schools.

We have a good selection of logoed sweatshirts and PE wear alongside shirts, polo shirts, trousers, skirts, pinafores, joggers and other items needed for school.

Tel: 01670737808  
Email: [hope1uniform@gmail.com](mailto:hope1uniform@gmail.com)

**Keeping It Local**

**And finally...end of term at 12.15/30pm on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

Please remember that due to the flooring work, we are having an early finish on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July to start the summer holiday (except for morning Nursery children who will finish at 11.45am as normal). The children will have had an early lunch before they leave. The '3 o'clock' children and Year 6 **will finish at 12.15pm and the others will finish at 12.30pm** – I'm sure they won't have forgotten!!

Finally, I would like to once again thank everyone for their support in what has been a very challenging year. I hope that you have a safe and restful summer holiday before we return in September!

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher

**EASTLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY LIST FOR 2021 / 22**

<b><u>HOLIDAY OR OCCASION OF CLOSURE</u></b>	<b><u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL CLOSE</u></b>	<b><u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL REASSEMBLE</u></b>
<b><u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u></b>	<b><u>MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2021</u></b>	
Summer 2021	Friday 16 July 2021	Tuesday 7 September 2021
October Mid-Term 2021	Thursday 21 October 2021	Monday 1 November 2021
<b><u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u></b>	<b><u>FRIDAY 22 OCTOBER 2021</u></b>	
Christmas/New Year 2021/2022	Friday 17 December 2021	Wednesday 5 January 2022
<b><u>STAFF TRAINING DAY</u></b>	<b><u>TUESDAY 4 JANUARY 2022</u></b>	
Spring Mid-Term 2022	Friday 18 February 2022	Monday 28 February 2022
Easter 2022	Friday 8 April 2022	Monday 25 April 2022
<b><u>MAY DAY</u></b>	<b><u>MONDAY 2 MAY 2022</u></b>	
Summer Mid-Term 2022	Friday 27 May 2022	Monday 6 June 2022
Summer 2022	Friday 22 July 2022	Monday 5 September 2022