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Eastbury Primary News

Goodbye to Mrs Gale

After 26 wonderful years at Eastbury, Mrs Gale is retiring this Christmas. Many of you will have come across Mrs Gale in her role of Family Liaison Officer and appreciated her friendly, dedicated and warm approach.

Mrs Gale has also worked incredibly hard as a fundraiser, organising the Macmillan Cancer Support coffee mornings, Children in Need and lots of school events. Some of you may even have had the opportunity to throw a sponge at her at the summer fair!

We would like to wish her a very happy retirement and the opportunity to spend lots more time with her family. Thank you Mrs Gale - you will be missed by children, parents and staff.

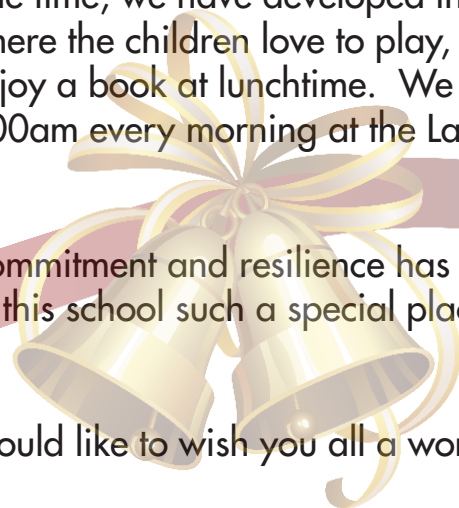
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

It's been a wonderful year at Eastbury, with lots of excitement, enjoyment and engaging learning. The lead-up to the Christmas holiday has been packed with great events including Christmas concerts, the Reception Nativity and the Winter Wonderland. We would like to say a huge thank you to parents, carers and families for their support for all these events; it has been great to see so many of you there.

The Christmas celebrations this year have been particularly satisfying because Eastbury has had such a successful 2019. Back in February, the school achieved its first ever 'good' rating from Ofsted. This was followed by its best-ever set of test results in the summer. We have built on these successes this term, making improvements to subjects across the curriculum, with the school received awards for RE, Healthy Eating and Sports. At the same time, we have developed the school grounds, constructing a great adventure playground, where the children love to play, and a new Reading Hut, providing children with a quiet place to enjoy a book at lunchtime. We have also opened the new Parent Welcome Centre (open at 9:00am every morning at the Lambourne Road entrance).

The children of Eastbury deserve a massive well done – their commitment and resilience has made the school's success possible. It is the children that make this school such a special place to be.

Now it's time for everyone to have a well-deserved rest. We would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.



Please could we remind parents not to park or to drop off children in front of the gates in the morning or after school. We have received a few comments from parents about cars blocking the gates and we would ask all parents to be considerate and help ensure the safety of all our children.



Dates for this term :

December

Friday 20th: Break up for Christmas holiday

January

Monday 6th: Return back to school

February

Friday 14th: Break up for half-term holiday

Christmas Dinner

Children and staff all had a great time at the school Christmas Dinner on Wednesday. Everyone looked fabulous in their Christmas jumpers and the children really enjoyed listening to festive music and tucking into the delicious lunch.



School Council

The School Council has had an exciting start to the year. They have already held a Book Corner Competition and personally chosen the winners.

The councillors are currently discussing recycling and how we can be more environmentally friendly here at school.

The School Council have also looked at some anonymous requests through our School Council suggestion jar. These included healthy snacks at playtime, changing the school lunch menu and providing more reading books in class. The councillors are currently working on these requests and finding ways to meet them.

Chocolate Museum comes to Eastbury

There were mixed reactions when year 3 tasted different chocolates during the Chocolate Museum workshop on Monday. The children learnt about where cocoa is grown and what happens to it before it becomes chocolate. They also learnt that chocolate can be healthy!

The children's favourites were milk and white chocolate, whilst the chilli and lime flavour will not appear on many Christmas lists this year!

Keeping Children Safe Coffee Mornings

In January, we are running three coffee mornings for parents and carers to support them in keeping their children safe.

These coffee mornings will cover important topics such as E-safety and what your children will be learning about British values. They will be held in the Parent Welcome Centre (entrance on Lambourne Road).

The dates of the coffee mornings for parents and carers are:

- Wednesday 8th January for Reception and year 1
- Thursday 9th January for parents from years 2 and 3
- Friday 10th January for parents from years 4,5 and 6

Parenting Workshops – help your child to be happy, confident and learn well

The parents who attended our 'Parent Gym' course this term found it really helpful in providing them with top tips on great parenting.

We are therefore planning to run a repeat course next term.

The dates for this course are:

Shorter Taster: Friday 7th February (9.15-10.00am)

Session 1, Chat: Friday 14th February (9.15-11.15am)

Session 2, Love: Friday 28th February (9.15-11.15am)

Session 3, Behave: Friday 6th March (9.15-11.15am)

Session 4, Care: Friday 13th March (9.15-11.15am)

Session 5, Discover: Friday 20th March (9.15-11.15am)

Session 6, Together: Friday 27th March (9.15-11.15am)

If you would like to take advantage of this great opportunity, please sign up in the school office. You can find out further information at www.parentgym.com or by speaking to Ms Kerr in the Parent Welcome Centre.

Reception Nativity

The Reception Children thoroughly enjoyed presenting their Christmas Nativity Play to the whole school and parents. The children all behaved impeccably and performed to the highest standards. We were so proud to see the play working on so many levels including beautiful singing, narration and acting. The children even used their sign language skills to ensure that all audiences were included.

We would like to congratulate all the young children in their fantastic effort and performance. They are a real credit to Eastbury Primary School.

Christmas Concerts

Congratulations to all the children from nursery to year 6 who have performed their Christmas concerts over the last two weeks. The performances were filled with fantastic singing and were thoroughly enjoyable.

Thank you to the parents and families who came in such large numbers to support the children and create such a great atmosphere at these events. The performance certainly got everyone into the spirit of Christmas!

Votes for schools

Every week children discuss a 'Votes for Schools' topic, which helps boost their oracy skills, as well as increasing their knowledge and understanding of current affairs. It is also great for parents to discuss these topics with their children at home.

This week children have been debating whether technology has improved Christmas. On the positive side, children talked about the fact that technology enables them to speak to family members in different countries and also to find out about how other parts of the world celebrate Christmas. On the other hand, children discussed how, before TV and computer games, families would spend more time talking to each other, playing board games or singing traditional songs.

Best attending classes

Children who have good attendance at school are likely to make more progress and do better in their learning. Our whole school target is 97% attendance and all children who have 100% attendance during the year receive a special certificate.

Congratulations to the best attending classes in each phase from last week.

Year 1 + 2

Class – 1C 99.13%

Year 3 + 4

Class – 4C 99.26%

Year 5 + 6

Class – 6E 98.33%



Attendance celebration

Congratulations to all those children who had 100% attendance this term!

As a reward, these children were invited to a special dance session. They had the opportunity to work with a professional dance co-ordinator, putting dance moves together to music. The children were active and physical, having fun moving to the beat.

A huge thank you to Georgina Alexiou for organising this and Red Fox & Icy for giving their time to support and provide such a wonderful experience and reward for the children.



Year 6 children meet university students

On Tuesday, a group of children from year 6 travelled to the Teach First offices in North Greenwich to meet students from universities across the UK.

The children enjoyed a series of mini-lessons from the students on a variety of subjects, including law, sociology and French. They also had the opportunity to ask the students about what life was like at university and how they found moving away from their families for the first time.

At the end of the day, the year 6 children delivered their own presentation on what makes a great teacher – and gave feedback to the university students on their lessons!



Clubs

Thank you to all those parents who have expressed an interest in your child attending our after school clubs. Unfortunately, we may be unable to run some clubs due to insufficient numbers and as a result we will be extending the club deadline until Thursday 9th January. If your child has been accepted into a club you would have received an acceptance letter today and these clubs will start the week beginning Monday 6th January. If you would like to express an interest in one of the other clubs, please return the club letter or visit the school office.

Please see attached club time table, clubs that are underlined will begin week starting Monday 6th January 2020

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday	
Activity	Year Groups	Activity	Year Groups	Activity	Year Groups	Activity	Year Groups
Crafts(Ms Abwooli)	Y1 and Y2	<u>Reading (Ms Jeffs)</u>	Y1 and Y2	<u>Cooking (Ms Steri)</u>	Y1 and Y2	Art (Ms Martinez)	Y3 to Y6
<u>Football(Mr Jones)</u>	Y3 and Y4	Arts and crafts (Ms Lyne)	Y1 and Y2	<u>Photography (Ms Mun-ti-anu)</u>	Y3 to Y6 (this club is full)	Mad Science (Outside provider)	Y1 to Y6
Art (Ms Martinez)	Y1 and Y2	Football (Mr Jones)	Y5 and Y6	<u>Karate (Outside provider)</u>	Y1 to Y6		
Yoga (Ms Steri)	Y1 and Y2	Netball (Mrs Kerr)	Y5 and Y6				

Stars of the Week!

One child from each class is selected every week to be the 'Star of the Week' and to receive a certificate. These certificates celebrate how that child has demonstrated one or more of our Eastbury values: creativity, respect, aiming high, team-work, enjoyment and resilience.

Well done to our latest Stars of the Week!

Name	Class	Reason
Zara	RA	for being a good role model to others.
Timur	RD	for being a fantastic member of the class - you will be missed.
Bryanna	1A	for showing great independence during Maths. She worked on her own to write number family sentences. Well done!
Shayla	1B	for challenging herself in Maths.
Lily	1C	for always challenging herself and aiming high.
Carlisa	1D	for always showing resilience in all subjects.
Dominic	2A	for working hard on his handwriting and presentation.
Vlad	2B	for a huge improvement in his writing.
Manha	2C	for creating a beautiful poster explaining the dangers of extreme weather and how to stay safe through it!
Tazkia	2D	for always wanting to help others and working hard in lessons.
Aiden	3A	for being a good team member whilst making peppermint creams.
Riley	3B	for always doing the right thing and doing his work to the best of his ability!
Charlie	3C	for showing perseverance in maths when dividing.
Xiana	3D	for showing excellent effort in English and Maths.
Demayar	4A	for improving handwriting and trying her best to join her letters
Sonny	4B	for writing an amazing news appear article.
Joju	4C	for working really hard on editing and improving her spellings.
Muntaha	4D	for her great report on the mysterious egg!
Khalid	5B	for being a resilient member of 5B and trying his best to complete all his work.
Amanda	5B	for always ensuring that her work is presentable and completed at a high standard.
Arijus	5C	for improved concentration all his lessons and fantastic progress in Maths, well done!
Tufail	6A	for trying hard to stay focused in all lessons and for his fantastic support to his group within our Science lesson.
Jessica	6B	for persevering during her maths lesson and demonstrating resilience in mastering division.
Sanjid	6C	for settling in to the class so well, and for always trying his hardest with his work even when he finds it challenging.
Maizie	6D	for being a times tables Rock Legend and for her very good reasoning to describe translations of shapes in the four quadrants.
Zishan	6E	for dramatically improving the structure of his writing.
Claudia	ARP	for following the rules, being kind and helpful when making biscuits in class.



Key Dates for this year

A copy of the school calendar is also available on the front page of the school website.

Autumn Term	
4 September 2019	Start of autumn term
4 October 2019	Science Week display for parents in main hall (3.00pm)
16 October 2019	Black History Day
17 October 2019	Last day of half-term
18 – 27 October 2019	Half-term holiday
1 November 2019	Maths Day
8 November 2019	Year 3 Diwali Assembly (9.30am)
13 - 14 November 2019	Parents' Evenings
15 November 2019	Anti-Bullying Day/ Children in Need
6 December 2019	Winter Wonderland (after school)
13 December 2019	Reception Christmas Assembly (9.30am)
18 December 2019	Christmas Lunch and Jumper day
20 December 2019	Last day of autumn term

Spring Term	
6 January 2020	Start of spring term
17 January 2020	Children's Rights Day
24 January 2020	Year 4 Chinese New Year Assembly (9.30am)
31 January 2020	International Language Day
15 – 24 February 2020	Half-term holiday
25 February	Return to school
5 March 2020	World Book Day
11 - 12 March 2020	Parents' Evenings
13 March 2020	Art/DT Week display for parents in the main hall (3.00pm)
17-20 March 2020	School Recitation Competition
30 March 2020	Year 5 Easter Assembly (9.30am)
3 April 2020	Last day of spring term

Summer Term	
20 April 2020	Start of summer term
1 May 2020	Year 1 St George's Day Assembly (9.30am)
7 May 2020	British Values Day / VE Day
11 – 14 May 2020	Key Stage 2 SATs Week (for year 6)
21 May 2020	Deaf Awareness Day
23 May – 1 June 2020	Half-term holiday
5 June 2020	Viva Espana afternoon
12 June 2020	Year 2 Eid Assembly (9.30am)
26 June 2020	Summer Picnic (3.00pm)
6 July 2020	Nursery and Reception Sports Day
9 July 2020	Key Stage 1 and 2 Sports Day
15 July 2020	Eco Day
17 July 2020	Last day of summer term