



Eastbury Primary News

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Play structure fully open

The new playground climbing frame has now been open for a few weeks and children are loving playing on it. The last part – a safety net under the wobbly bridge – has now been added so that children can enjoy the whole structure.



We're looking forward to another exciting term at Eastbury

Happy New Year to everyone! We hope you all had a relaxing time over Christmas and are looking forward to the term ahead.

As ever, there are lots of special days and events planned for the term. Today was Children's Rights Day, where children learnt about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child – and also showed off their fabulous funky hairstyles.

At Eastbury, we are proud of the diversity of our community. Next Friday (24th January) will be the year 4 Chinese New Year Assembly. The children of year 4 have been practising hard and we hope to see many parents and families there to support them. On 31st January, we will be celebrating International Languages Day. Children will be finding out about different languages around the world, ranging from Russian to Arabic, and will also be encouraged to come to school in their traditional dress or in appropriate colours for the language they are studying.

There are also a number of special weeks linked to different subjects planned for this term. During February, we will be holding a Computing Week, while in March there will be Art Week, with an opportunity for you to see the children's work displayed in the hall on 13th March. There will also be the return in March of the very successful Poetry Recitation Week, which was launched last year, with parents being invited to special performances during that week.

As always, we look forward to working closely with parents and carers in their children's learning. The support that you provide with homework, spellings and times tables really helps their progress. Reading at home is of course extremely important and we will be celebrating the ever popular World Book Day on 5th March. Finally, don't forget to put Parents' Evenings on 11th and 12th March in your diaries!

Thank you to everyone for all your support for the school. We're all looking forward to another great term!

Annual Parents Survey – your views count!

There is a link on our school website to our annual parent survey. we would love to hear what you think the school is doing well and what it could do even better.

The link will be open until the end of January, and we will be reporting the results of the survey to parents in February.



Dates

January

Friday 24th: Year 4 Chinese New Year Assembly (9:30am)

Friday 31st: International Language Day

February

Friday 14th: Break up for half-term holiday

Monday 25th: Return back to school

March

Thursday 5th: World Book Day

Wednesday 11th: Parents' Evenings

Thursday 12th: Parents' Evenings

Friday 13th: Art/DT Week display for parents in the main hall

Unwanted Christmas gifts

If you have any unwanted Christmas gifts from toys to toiletries, please send them into the school office or bring them round to the Eastbury Parent Welcome Centre. We will use these either in school or for upcoming events to raise money which supports the children.

Friends of Eastbury

The Friends of Eastbury meet regularly to discuss ideas and to arrange community events, such as the Winter Wonderland and Summer Picnic. All parents and carers are members and are welcome to come along and join us. The next meeting is 31st January in the Parent Welcome Centre (entrance on Lambourne Road) starting at 8.45am.

Working together to support your child

It is normal for most children to have worries, whether about their work or about their relations with other children.

If you are concerned your child is having difficulties with any of their school work or issues with any of the other children, then you will find it helpful to do the following:

- Speak to your child at home about what the problem is.
- Be patient and allow them to speak while you listen.
- Give your child your full attention while they talk to you.

- Make an appointment to discuss any concerns with the class teacher

Please do not try to resolve any issues with other parents or children in the playground - allow staff to address these on behalf of your child.

Help your child be happy, confident and do well

Following its success in the autumn term, we are holding the popular parenting course, Parent Gym, again this term.

There is an introductory session to find out what Parent Gym is all about on Friday 7th February in the Parent Welcome Centre. If you would like to sign up or discuss it further, please ask to speak to our new Family Support Worker, Miss Kerr.

Further information on the programme is at the back of this newsletter.

Year 6 visit the offices of EY

On 10th January, a group of children from year 6 visited the offices of EY (Ernst and Young) on the banks for the River Thames at London Bridge. The children were inspired by hearing from EY employees, including our parent governor, Zaheer Ahmad MBE, about their careers and what life is like working in a global professional services firm. They produced some wonderful posters displaying what they had learnt.

We would like to thank Zaheer for organising this visit and providing the children with such a great opportunity.

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.

Last week children were debating whether 2019 was an important year. Children discussed some of the key events and people of the year, such as Greta Thunberg encouraging people to look after the environment and Boris Johnson becoming Prime Minister. Overall, 67% of children at Eastbury voted that 2019 was an important year, while 33% disagreed. This is similar to the national vote with 73% agreeing and 27% disagreeing.

This week children have been discussing whether they would be willing to go vegetarian or vegan for a month.



Police Workshops

Police workshops have taken place this week for years 5 and 6. The topics covered were:

- Crime and consequences
- Gangs and knife crime
- Online safety

The children listened very well and they are now able to understand how the above areas can easily become out of their control. The workshop provided the children with the knowledge to help them to make the right choices and to stay safe.



Amazing reading displays

The children and staff have been working extremely hard to create exciting reading corners and displays which encourage a love of reading.

A special thank you to Faiza Chudary, one of our parent volunteers, who has created this amazing reading display outside 6C.



Antony Lishak Project

There has been a group of 19 children that have been working with children's author Antony Lishak over the last two terms. They have been working on understanding the impact of the Holocaust upon the Jewish community. They have also been looking at how they could help others that find themselves in situations where they are being persecuted or bullied.

The children have really enjoyed being able to work with Antony on this project, and have created some fantastic art work that depicts the difficulties facing the Jewish community during World War Two. They have also written some beautiful and emotive poems, which are very powerful to read.

As part of the project some of the children will be sharing their views and opinions at the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz - one of the worst concentration camps during World War Two, that killed over 1 million Jewish and other minorities.

This has been an amazing opportunity for the children to express their opinions about injustice and how they think they can prevent future injustices in the world.

Term time absence

Absence during school time can have a major impact on your child's education as they miss out on important learning and may fall behind the rest of their class. All requests for absence during term time will not be authorised and you may be subject to an FPN (fixed penalty notice). If an FPN is issued this can be up to £240 per child.

If you plan for your child to be absent during term time then you must complete an absence form from the school office in advance. All forms are then passed on to the Co-Headteachers.

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.

Class – 2C 100%

Class – 3B 99.23%

Class – 5B 98.61%

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, teamwork, enjoyment and resilience.

Well done to our latest Stars of the Week!

Name	Class	Reason
Elissa	RA	for settling in well and making friends.
Amina	RC	for amazing segmenting when writing new words. Well done and keep it up!
Hussain	RD	for independently completing an activity and answered question about what he had made.
Jasmine	1A	for showing resilience and determination in her work about Victorian and modern hospitals. Well done.
Yakhya	1B	for improving his behaviour and concentration in class.
Yazmin	1C	for always aiming high and helping her peers.
Ivy	1D	for working hard in maths and able to recognise various 2D shapes.
Alisha	2A	for her contribution to the school and her effort in all lessons. We wish you all the best in your new school.
Raiyhan	2B	for a great improvement in his reading.
Uzair	2C	for trying really hard with his reading and going up 5 band levels. Well done Uzair.
Eli	2D	for trying very hard to improve his presentation.
Tahria	3A	for perseverance during maths .
Lennie	3B	for a huge improvement in his writing. Well done!
Ibrahim	3C	for working hard during maths lessons
Azeem	3D	for showing positive behaviour in his new classroom.
Ibrahim	4A	for fantastic improvement in handwriting
Pariza	4B	for always having a good attitude towards her learning.
Shihad	4C	for being more confident in answering questions.
Leyla	4D	for really persevering with maths even when she finds it a little difficult.
Ilyes	5A	for continuously getting full marks in his spelling and arithmetic tests. Keep it up!
Akram	5B	for being extremely focused throughout all areas of his work.
Kasparas	5C	for being a kind and helpful member of 5C.
Alex Garate	5D	for making steady progress in his reading.
Gloria	6A	for fantastic work on identifying missing angles.
David	6B	for always wanted to help and his great participation in Maths.
Shalom Grace	6C	for a beautiful piece of artwork representing the Holocaust.
Testimony	6D	for her beautiful sketch of Chinese artwork.
Emily	6E	for learning through adversity and injury.
Archie	ARP	for fantastic and proactive work on maths (shapes) which is challenging for him.
Hassan	ARP	for fantastic work and completing his english and maths on time.
Claudia	ARP	for fantastic independent work and focused writing about her holidays and Maths (shapes).



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
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
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

Six-week programme overview

Parent Gym is a course of six workshops; each session lasts two hours and is packed with practical tips and techniques to make family life easier and help your children thrive.

Fun and interactive sessions, with a weekly 'mission' to practise at home

Rooted in scientific research

A great chance to meet and chat with other parents

Each week's session covers one of these key topics:

01 / Week

Chat

How to communicate

Get you and your child talking and listening in a positive way every day.



02 / Week

Love

How to show you care, in the right ways

Boosting your child's confidence, with a balance between closeness and independence.



03 / Week

Behave

How to be consistent in setting boundaries

Bring calm to your family with rules and routines that really work.



04 / Week

Care

How to raise healthy children

Keep yourself and your family healthy and happy with good sleep, eating and exercise.



05 / Week

Discover

How to encourage learning

Help develop healthy learning habits with your child, including managing screen time.



06 / Week

Together

How to build a family support network

Keep your family feeling happy, supported and loved.



Still looking for a reason to take part?

Around **10,000** parents have already participated

96% of those surveyed would recommend to other parents

Parents' feedback

"I am calm... the family is happier..."

It is amazing how a course can change your life."

Parent, Morningside Childrens Centre

"I'm sleeping through the night for the first time in years."

Parent, Boxgrove Primary School

"Parent Gym has worked wonders for me and my family. It's not about who's a good or bad parent – it just gives you lots of ideas to overcome difficulties in parenting."

Parent, Mount Stewart Junior School

