

# Important Dates & Holidays

**December** 

Wednesday 21st: Last day of term

**January** 

Thursday 5th: Children return to school

**February** 

Friday 10th: Last day of school

Monday 20th: Children return to school



### **Eastbury Winter Wonderland**

Last week we saw Eastbury covered in a blanket of snow. All the children and staff had a great time playing with the snow and building snowmen. Some were even reading books! A special thank you to our caretaking team for clearing all the entrances so that that we could keep the school open.

The Christmas Fayre was a great success. A huge thank you for your donations, which made this event possible. We have received so many lovely comments from parents and children saying how much they enjoyed all the activities. Father Christmas also arrived at Eastbury again this year. Over 400 children enjoyed their visit to our enchanted forest, listened to a Christmas story and received a present. Together you have helped us raise over £2000 to spend on equipment for your children. Thank you!







#### <u>Christmas Jumper Day – Great Ormond Street Hospital</u>

Thank you for your kind donations for Great Ormond Street Hospital that looks after very sick children. You raised over £200.00 Thank you for your generosity!





#### **Christmas Concerts**

Every year group from our youngest children in our nursery to the children in year 6 performed to hundreds of parents each day. Thank you to everyone who came out in freezing temperatures to support the children. They did a fantastic job performing and using sign language so that everyone was included.



#### **Reception Nativity**

The Reception Nativity is a highlight in everyone's school calendar and after waiting for several years the children rose to the challenge and entertained us from the very first moment.







#### **Cost of Living Support**

If you need help and advice to support you and your family with the increased costs of food and heating. Please check our leaflet on the school website which has lots of useful information <a href="https://www.eps.barking-dagenham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Cost-of-living-leaflets.pdf">https://www.eps.barking-dagenham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Cost-of-living-leaflets.pdf</a>

#### TT Rockstar's

Every child from Year 2 to year 6 has access to the online Times Tables Rockstar's programme. To celebrate their achievements, each week the child and class who has achieved the most points in their year group receives a certificate. This has really improved the children's times table knowledge and they are having fun while they are learning! Please encourage your children to take part in the times table competitions as this will improve their mathematical knowledge and skills.



#### **Supporting Pupil Premium Children**

Parents of children who are eligible for pupil premium will receive a £50 Supermarket Voucher. We have also purchased a reading book for each child which will be sent home this week. Pupil premium children are entitled to free school meals, half price school run clubs and a discount on residential trips.

To check if your child may be eligible please check on this link <a href="https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/free-school-meals-pupil-premium">https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/free-school-meals-pupil-premium</a>

#### Start of the School Day – 8:40am

Children are still arriving after 8:40am each morning and missing their phonics and reading lessons. Their teachers have advised me that this is having an impact on their learning. We will be writing to parents in the New Year to explain the governments expectation that children arrive at school on time.

## End of the school day (3:05pm Reception 3:15pm all other year groups)

A huge thank you for working with us to ensure that your children are collected on time.



Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year Mrs Shepherd and the Eastbury Team