



Eastfield Primary School
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14th January 2016

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Dear Parents,

I can't believe we are already at the end of our 2nd week so a very belated Happy New Year! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas, even though I'm sure it is probably a very distant memory by now! It is great to see all the children back in school wearing the correct school uniform and looking smart in their black shoes. **Please remember that your child needs PE kit in school every day!**

Building Work

The building work is now in its final stages and the 2 new classrooms are now finally starting to look like classrooms! We are still on track for ALL work to be finished before Easter.

INSET day

School will be closed for its final 2 INSET days on Monday 18th January and Friday 12th February.

After School Clubs

After School Clubs have restarted this week. Please remember that After School Clubs are not paid child care and can be cancelled at very short notice. All After School Clubs finish at 4:15pm.

Head Boy and Head Girl

Congratulations to Chelsea Dudley and Warren Hyde who have been chosen as Head Girl and Head Boy for this term. Well done to Jessica James Causer who is the Deputy Head Girl.

Homework

The school's homework policy is on the school's website. An important part of the policy is the consequences for children not completing it i.e. loss of playtime - please support the school with this and encourage your child to accept the consequences. An important part of growing up is to accept the rewards when things are going well BUT to also accept the consequences when things do not go well. Please do not make excuses for your child or ask teachers to make exceptions as an important part of schooling is about following rules and policies and children need to learn this life skill. It is also important that the school is consistent in their approach to homework and that is why the Governing Body has a Homework Policy so that we are fair to ALL children.

READING AT HOME

Just a reminder that all pupils at Eastfield are expected to read their book / learn their words at home daily and that parents **MUST SIGN THE SCHOOL READING RECORD** to say that they have heard their child read or to say that they have helped them learn their words.

Again there are consequences in school for children not reading at home - please see the school's homework policy / school's behaviour policy.

Marking of your child's work

I have been asked by the school's Governing Body to produce a leaflet which shows parents how and why we mark your children's work in their books - please see attached.

Holidays in school term time - REMINDER

*Just a reminder that as of September 2013 the Government has amended the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 and this means that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time (holidays and extended leave) unless there are exceptional circumstances. **The Head Teacher cannot authorise 'holidays' in term time.** The Government expects all schools to issue penalty notices / fines (£60) to parents who take leave of absence (holidays) in term time.*

School can still consider requests for leave of absence in exceptional circumstances and a leave of absence form must be completed explaining why the absence is exceptional - these forms are available from the office. We will not authorise any exceptional leave of absence that is for more than 5 days. **No leave of absence will be authorised for Year 6 pupils during SATs week in May (Monday 9th May - Friday 13th May 2015).**

Attendance

It is vitally important that your child attends school every day ON TIME. Please send your child to school even if they are a bit 'under the weather.' We monitor every child's attendance and punctuality on a weekly basis and letters are sent to parents whose children have attendance of less than 90% and / or children who are 'consistently late'. We involve the Local Authority's Education Welfare Officer if your child's attendance falls below 90% and / or if they arrive consistently late and you will be invited into school to attend a meeting. Parents can face prosecution for poor attendance and poor punctuality.

School Website

Please add the school website to your favourites www.eastfieldprimaryschool.org.uk as this is where I will post any important messages especially with the Winter 'snowy' weather on its way.

Engaging with families

During the last 2 terms we have ran parent projects which are aimed at families working together - parent and child (Robotics project and Phonics project) and we would like to offer more of these projects during the Spring and Summer term.

There is a survey attached and I would really appreciate it if you could find 5 minutes to complete it and then send it back into the school office - there is a chance to win a £20 Argos voucher if you send your survey back by the 29th January.

Mobile Phone Numbers

If you have had a new mobile phone over the holidays please make sure that the office has your most up to date contact number. We do communicate a lot by text SO it is really important that we have your correct number.

Spring Term Parent's Evening

This term's parent's evening is on Tuesday 15th March - please put the date in your diary.

As always it is a very busy time at Eastfield - Today year 3 have enjoyed a Roman day; Year 2 have been on their 2 night residential at Kingswood this week. Next week all junior classes will be going to see Peter Pan at the Grand Theatre and both reception classes will be enjoying 'woodlanders' at Kingswood. Later on this term Year 5 will be going to France; Year 1 will be visiting the Leicester Space Centre and Year 3 will be taking part in the Farm to Fork project at Tesco's.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Hay Head Teacher



Marking – Information for parents



At Eastfield, we have recently reviewed the way we 'mark' your children's work and we now 'mark' in pink pen across the school – this leaflet explains about marking in your child's books.

What is the purpose of marking? Why do we mark?

The main purpose of marking and feedback is not to find fault, but to help children learn. It is the dialogue that takes place between adults and pupils, ideally while the task is still being completed.

- Feedback Marking can support
- Feedback marking can consolidate
- Feedback marking can accelerate
- Feedback marking can challenge



Marking Expectations at Eastfield

Marking in all books will always be carried out promptly, and will be completed before the next lesson in that subject.

Teachers award house points or stickers to link to school reward systems.

When appropriate, children may mark their own or another child's work, but the teacher will always review this marking.

We believe that written comments are more valuable than marks or grades. Teachers will write a comment with one of the following aims: to support, to consolidate, to accelerate or to challenge; and the comment can be at the end or in the middle of a piece of work.

In your child's books you may see the following codes:

Sp spelling (2 spellings will be corrected in all pieces of work and children will copy them out 3x)

PAG punctuation or grammar (1 grammatical error will be identified for the child to address)



Really good! Evidence of WALT and WILF in action. The teacher is really pleased!



Correct answer

- Incorrect answer (we do not use crosses)

AS Adult supported (the child has completed a piece of work with an adult, not independently)

VF verbal feedback given 1:1 (the child has needed adult explanation)



Self – review face (I need more help)



Self – review face (I understand / I get it!)

You may hear your child talking about WALT and WILF – WALT is 'We are learning to.....' And WILF is 'What I'm looking for.....'

You may also hear your child talking about happy faces and straight faces – each child is asked to review their work, when they have finished, to see if they have learnt / achieved what the teacher was teaching them in that lesson (they review against the WALT) - a straight face means (I need more help) 😐 or a smiley face means (I get it) 😊

The teacher will then also review the work and will put their own happy / straight face in pink pen next to the child's and this then forms a discussion between the teacher and the child.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT MARKING PLEASE SEE YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER