

Eastbrook Echo

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Issue 9

Friday, 17th January 2020

Important Items in this newsletter:

- ♦ Diary Dates
- ♦ Attendance including Term Time Absences
- ♦ PTA fundraising
- ♦ PTA Coffee Morning



Congratulations to our

Stars of the Week

These awards are given out in Celebration Assembly every Friday

Class	w/ending 20.12.19	w/ending 10.1.20		
1MS	Grace	Pixie		
1AT	Erin	Eve		
2KB	Paulina	Morgan		
2SJ	Charlotte	Tabitha		
3JB	Aiden	Maisie		
3LS	Elliott	Рорру		
4KL	Bobby-Jack	Rocco		
4FM	Samuel	Julia		
5CP	Lester	Liam		
5RW	Daniel	James		
6HS	Jenna	Archie		
6SG	Emmy	Chase		
Sport				
Forest				

Dear All

We'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy new year, even though it feels a little while since the beginning of the year!

As we start the Spring Term the children have been thinking of new year's resolutions to encourage them to try new things or improve upon something they already do. Staff have also been thinking along the same lines, making well-being pledges, in a bid to improve work/life balance. We hope your new year's resolutions are going to plan!

Term started a day earlier for staff, with an INSET day. This was used to focus on the curriculum, particularly foundation subjects such as art, music and PE. The outcome of this work will be shared via our website in the next few weeks. This will include Subject Intents which are statements that clearly share our vision for each area of the curriculum. With Mr Owen taking a lead, the staff are also completing Knowledge Organisers for all of the major topics taught across the school. These will capture the key information, images and vocabulary which will always be shared within the topic. This will enable subject leaders to articulate more clearly how the learning in their subject progresses across the school.

Another focus for the school is Early Reading. Thanks to your generosity, the PTA have been able to provide the funding for hundreds of new books. These have been identified by Allan Trower, our Literacy Lead, to specifically support early reading. They are phonetically decodable books, which means the sounds in the books match directly with the sounds the children in EYFS and KS1 are learning in their phonics sessions. These books are very repetitive so the idea is that they are read alongside other books that are matched to more general reading ability and include 'tricky words'). If you have any questions about the books your child is reading please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

The first major sporting event of the year has already taken place with our Indoor Athletics team representing the school brilliantly earlier this week. We were very proud of their team spirit and for coming first! More events will follow shortly, including Cross Country next week. Julia Sherlock (Headteacher)

PTA Fundraising

Our wonderful PTA are always thinking of different ways to raise money for our school. They have discovered that if you shop online, you can raise FREE donations for the school. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to the PTA when you use #easyfundraising to shop with them!

Please sign up and support the PTA by going to: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk

You then need to click on the tab to find a cause to support (Eastbrook Primary Academy PTA) and sign up, either using Facebook details or an email.

If you follow the instructions, before making an online purchase, money gets donated directly to the school. Please go and have a look.

<u>RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR</u> **Attendance Update** Overall attendance remains close to our target of 96%. We are, however, still receiving requests for term time absences. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that we cannot authorise any holidays in term time as the expectation is that holidays are taken within the 13 weeks of holiday time across the school year. In line with our locality schools we can only authorise exceptional absences such as a day for a close family wedding. During the Autumn, details of term time absences (including holidays of a week or more) were passed onto West Sussex County Council Pupil Entitlement Investigations Team. One possible outcome from this referral is a Fixed Penalty Notice (Fine). We are aware that several families have already received fines this year. As you all know school attendance is incredibly important as it can have an impact on both your child's learning and their friendship groups. Our school target is to be at least in line with national figures: 96%; anything lower could have an impact on our Outstanding judgement. Each week classes have the opportunity to win attendance awards for the best attendance. Well

done to the following classes:

w/ending 20th December 2019

X KS1 1st place with 98% is 2KB, KS2 1st place with 98.5% is 5CP

Whole School Attendance w/ending 20th December = 95.1%

w/ending 10th January 2020

KS1 1st place with 99.6% is 2KB, KS2 1st place with 100% is 3JB

Whole School Attendance w/ending 10th January = 97.6%

Overall school attendance currently stands at 97.2%

Wet Playtimes!

It can't have escaped anyone's notice that there has been a lot of rain recently! One of the unfortunate consequences of this is more indoor playtimes. We would therefore be really interested in any games/jigsaws that children have outgrown to update our Rainy Day Boxes. If you have any items (which would need to be in good condition and complete) please can you bring them into the school office for us to re-use. If we get too many donations of the same type of items we will pass them onto a local charity shop so they will still go to a good home.

We are still looking for good quality fiction and non-fiction books to help restock our libraries. If you have any second-hand books we would be delighted to receive them. Again duplications may be passed onto charity shops. Thank you.

PTA Coffee Morning

Please join the PTA for a coffee and a chat on **Friday 31st January from 9am to 10.15am** in the school hall. Our small but enthusiastic group of parents wish to welcome other parents/carers to bring their ideas about fundraising within school. You are welcome to bring younger siblings along too, so please join us for a coffee and a chat.

Term Dates for your Diary

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Spr	ına	Term	2020

1 uesday 21st January	KS2	Parliament Assembly
Monday 27th January	Y5	Basic First Aid Training
Wednesday 29th January	Y6	VE Day (letter to follow)
Friday 7th February	EYFS & KS1	Film Night
Tuesday 12th February	Y3	Space Ďay
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Thurs 13th February **Y5** Saxon Day Friday 14th February Y6 Viking Day Mon 17th - Fri 21st February ΑII

Half Term Holiday

Tuesday 25th February Y2 Trip to Herstmonceux (letter to follow) Thursday 5th March ΑII World Book Day Hogwarts comes to Éastbrook!

Monday 16th March **Y4** Hinduism workshop (letter to follow)

Thursday 19th March **Y3** Trip Chichester Planetarium (letter to follow)

Monday 30th March ΑII Easter Egg Competition Friday 3rd April ΑII Last day of Spring Term

Summer Term 2020

INSET Day (School closed to pupils) First day of Summer Term Monday 20th April ΑII

Tuesday 21st April ΑII

Mon 25th - Fri 29th May ΑII Half Term Holiday

Thursday 16th July ΑII Last day of Summer Term (pupils)

Autumn Term 2020

Monday 7th September 2020 ΑII Start of Autumn Term (next academic year)

Costumes

We have had a fantastic idea from one of our parents to collect any costumes that children have outgrown to pass onto younger children in the school. This prevents on-going waste. We were thinking of Nativity, Christmas Jumpers, World Book Day and WOW day costumes, like the Egyptians or Bakers. If you have any costumes you would be prepared to donate to the school we will collect them in and then offer them to parents before performances, WOW days etc. If you have any such items please hand them into the office or your class teacher so that we can organise them appropriately. Many thanks.

Parliament Assembly

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In order to increase the children's knowledge about how parliament works the school is hosting a special assembly at 2.30pm on Tuesday 21st January for all of our KS2 pupils. This follows the school council's visit to the Houses of Parliament last term. Parents are welcome to join us for this assembly and a separate letter has been sent out with all the details.

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