



Newsletter



Friday 24th January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

During the first two weeks of this term we have been thinking about our school value 'Hope'. The children talked about what 'Hope' means to them and their hopes for the New Year. We also talked about how small things can make a difference. We had two pupils from year 5 who led Collective Worship for the whole school on climate change and the small changes we can make to bring hope to the situation. Over the next few weeks we will be setting up an 'Eco' group in school to look at ways we can help to minimise climate change.



Our current value is 'Endurance'.



Exciting News We have really exciting news at Eastergate CE Primary – West Sussex County Council have agreed to refurbish our outside area at the beginning of February! The decking, the walls and trellis in the old swimming pool area will be taken down. In addition the paved area that leads onto the field will be 'remodelled' and resurfaced, along with the main playground. It is hoped that the work will be completed by the end of the half term break.

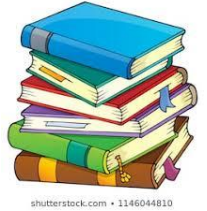
It means we are going to have to make some temporary alterations to arrangements at the beginning and end of the school day in terms of where children in years 2, 3,4,5 and 6 enter and exit the school building at the beginning and end of the school day. We will send out another letter next week to let parents and carers know what we are planning.

More good news...



Santa Fun Run We would like to thank all the participants and their sponsors for their hard work and generous donations! We raised £550 which will go towards funds for laptops! Thank you, Friends of EPS and Mrs Reedman, who spent most of a cold December day outside, encouraging children to run!

Books, Books, Books! Please could you have a good look at home for any school reading books that might be hiding under beds or chairs, in bedrooms or living rooms, in the boot or footwell of the car! Some of the shelves in the library are looking a bit bare! We want children to have a wide choice of books to read, so encourage them to return their books promptly!



Attendance and Lates Our attendance at present is 96.12%, which is just above the government's target of 96%. Please could you make sure you try to avoid taking children out of school for appointments before 9.00am or 1.00pm during term time unless it is absolutely necessary.



Please note that all children are expected to be in school in the morning before 8.50am, which is the time the gate closes. After this time they are marked late in the register. All classes have 'early work' in class between 8.40am and 9.00am or reading. This time is important for children to settle and get sorted for the start of the school day and it is an opportunity for them to read, practise their spellings, timestables or other essential skills. Please make sure your child doesn't miss out!

EYFS and KS1 Book Bags

Please ensure that your children's book bags are in school everyday. We are very excited to have invested in a new range of RWI and Library books for the children to enjoy. These will be closely matched to their reading abilities. The children will be bringing home three different type of books. The first book will link to their current phonics or reading groups at school. The second book will be chosen by your child and could be more challenging including vocabulary which may not be decodable. The third book is a sharing book for you to all enjoy at home.



Water Bottles

Please remember that everyone should have a water bottle in school everyday and as water is better for their teeth. Please can we kindly ask, that these are filled with fresh water everyday.

Orchestra Visit On Tuesday this week we had a visit from some members of Chichester Symphony Orchestra. All the children were able to watch and enjoy listening to several different musical instruments, and learn a little about each one from the musicians playing. A fun way to spend part of our morning. Earlier this week we emailed a flyer on their behalf to all Newsletter recipients about their 'Around the World' event happening tomorrow 25th Janary 2020.



Don't forget if you have any questions or queries, please ask at the school office or talk to your child's class teacher at the end of the day.

CM Ward

Catherine Ward
Headteacher

Diary Dates

January 2020

Fri 31st Zoolab visiting Moorhen and Osprey Classes

February 2020

Mon 3rd Work should begin on school playground

Thu 13th Pupil Reports to Parents

Fri 14th INSET Day 4 of 5

17th - 21st Half Term Holiday

March 2020

Thu 5th World Book Day