

EASTWOOD NEWS

Issue 91

December 2023

In the words of the famous song: 'It's the most wonderful time of the year' yet simultaneously the most busy time of the year in primary schools! As KS1 prepare to share their Festive Production with us and year groups prepare for their end of term showcase assemblies, school is a hub of activity and excitement. Class parties, trips and visits and a potential visit from a special visitor (Mr Claus himself hopefully!) promise fun for all. The separate letter sent home last week outlines many of the important dates and times for you to be aware of. We are, however, acutely aware that for many, this time of year is not full of fun. The icy conditions bring worry and trouble for many and loneliness and isolation can really hit hard. That is why we have chosen to hold our first Brighter Futures Week of the year this week. All of our pupils will be involved in community outreach activities over the coming week visiting community centres, residential homes and charity organisations to offer their help and support. This showcases our commitment to our vision: Building Brighter Futures Together and our most important 'C's – Care and Community. We hope to see many of you when we are out and about around Keighley. Our commitment to supporting others is also being showcased through our application to become accredited as a 'School of Sanctuary' – a certified place of welcome for all. Our new pupil induction policy, Family Centre sessions and family support work all help us achieve this mission and we hope that our community feel that we are indeed welcoming and work hard to achieve our mission.

Thank you for your support. Mrs Carter, Headteacher.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDARS

Our school holiday dates are available on our school website and paper copies are available from the school office if needed.

- w/c 4th December – Brighter Futures Week & Key Stage showcase assemblies (see separate letter)
- Friday 15th December – school closes for the Christmas break
- Tuesday 2nd January 2024 – School opens for the Spring term

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please can all parents check devices your child has access to ensure that the appropriate filters and safety measures are in place. We have a concerning number of pupils reporting they have access to social media apps which are unsuitable for their age. Many pupils also have been accessing games which are not suitable for their age which puts them at risk of harm.

HEALTHY START VOUCHERS

If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food, milk and vitamins. If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card with money on it that you can use in some UK shops. Scan the QR code here to access the website for more information.



NUTS PRODUCTS IN SCHOOL

Due to allergies, please don't send any nut products into school.

CAR PARKS & PATHS

Please do not walk through the car parks to get to / from classes at the back of school. Please use the paths. Thank you.

MINIBUS

All our fundraising efforts and your generous donations to our fundraising have secured enough money for a deposit for a new minibus and we are pleased to announce that this has now been ordered and it should arrive with us in the New Year all being well! This will enable us to take even more pupils off-site to enhance their classroom learning and should help to keep transport costs down for class trips as well.

VICTORIA PARK REFURBISHMENT

We are delighted to be able to inform you that the park area of Victoria Park is due to be refurbished in the coming year. All the equipment will be either replaced, repaired or re-painted which is fantastic news and we hope that you all enjoy using it and help to look after it so that all residents can enjoy it for years to come.

UNIFORM

We have been very impressed with how well dressed for the weather our pupils have been recently – keep the hats, gloves and scarves on so we can continue to enjoy being outside!

HEADSCARVES

Headscarves worn in school must be PLAIN purple or black. Please do not send your child to school wearing headscarves with gemstones / glitter / lace or other decorations. Thank you.

THE SCHOOL DAY

Please can we remind all parents that LESSONS START at 8:45am. Many pupils are arriving in school after this time and are therefore missing vital learning time.

HOLIDAYS / TIME OFF SCHOOL DURING TERM TIME

Please note that we **cannot** authorize trips in term time unless of **exceptional circumstances**. This is an agreement across ALL Keighley schools. Tickets must **not** be booked before seeking permission and proof of the reason for travel must be provided. Appointments should also be arranged out of school times please.

FEEDBACK

Our annual family feedback survey has gone paperless this year! Please scan the QR code below to access our feedback survey. It should take no more than 15 minutes to complete but your feedback is very important so that we know how to help you, your child and our school be even better than we are already!



CALLING ALL EX-PUPILS!

We would like to make contact with ex-Eastwood pupils to find out what they have gone on to achieve. We would love to hear from anyone about their achievements post-Eastwood.

If you have any safeguarding concerns about anyone, please speak to the Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Carter, Mrs Khan or Mr Whittaker.

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