

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to our second Newsletter of the academic year.

I hope you'll agree that all the children have quickly settled into their new classes and are already producing some wonderful examples of learning from the experiences the teaching teams are providing.

As always, if you have any questions, queries, concerns or information to share please don't hesitate to get in touch.

### **Online Safety – Using parental controls**

Parental controls are designed to help parents and carers manage their child's online activities. There are various types, some of which are free but others which can be bought. However, nothing is totally fool proof so they shouldn't replace the need for you to support and advise your child using the internet.

For detailed guidance on the different types of control, you can use this online tool from Internet Matters. This gives you the chance to set up a personalised list of the controls used in your home on all your different devices. There is also advice on how to use all the various controls, with videos and step-by-step instructions.



For more information, please visit [ThinkUKnow-parent controls](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/)

### **Little Wandle Letters and Sounds**

Over the last few weeks, we have been busy implementing our new phonics scheme. Many parents and carers came to our learning cafes about this and have seen in action what it will look like in class.

This week, Key Stage 1 children will be bringing home their first reading book to share with you at home. This is a book that they will have read with an adult in school up to 3 times before bringing it home and therefore should be able to read approximately 95% of the text with ease. There will be a letter accompanying the book to explain what you can do with your child and urging you to return it promptly when asked. This is to aid and support with the texts being used for a different group of children the following week.

You can also access many parent resources on the website, to access this please follow this link: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/> Here you will find information leaflets, how to videos and a wealth of information.

If you are unsure about anything, then please talk to your child's class teacher.

## Ukulele Workshops



On Monday, we had a visit from Mark Ferraby, 'Mr Fez', from Strings That Go Ping who ran ukulele workshops for the children in reception and key stage 1. The children saw and heard first-hand the wonderful sounds of the ukulele and took part in engaging sessions where they found out more about the ukulele and accompanied Mark by singing familiar songs.

A group of children took part in a practical session where they learnt how to hold and play the ukulele and then performed what they had learnt in an assembly with Mark, to celebrate the day.

You can see Mark and join in with a community celebration of ukulele's at the Old Riverport Ukulele Festival on the 7th October 2023 in the Corn Exchange in St Ives.

Here is what some of the children had to say about their experiences:

I really liked performing to the whole school.

It was really fun playing the ukelele.

I enjoyed the warmup with the steps to hold the ukelele. We played and sang Kookaburra.

### **Early Years (Reception and Nursery) Parent/Carer information evening**

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 6:30pm, we will be holding a Welcome to Early Years meeting for all of our Reception and Nursery parents and carers. During this information session, we will share more information about how we run our Nursery and Reception classes at Eastfield. We will give you an insight into what you as parents/carers and your children can expect over the next year and discuss how we deliver Early Years Curriculum here at Eastfield. We will also be sharing some ideas about what you can do at home to support your child.

If you are unable to make this information session the slides and handouts will be available shortly after on our school website.

### **Parent/Carer evening**

This year the school will be holding Parent/Carer Evenings on the following days;

- Nursery Parents Evening – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October (3:50 - 7pm)
- Nursery Parents Evening – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October (3:50 - 6:50pm)
- Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October (3.30pm – 7pm)
- Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October (3.30pm – 5.30pm)

Details on how to book your parents evening slot will be sent out next week.

Parents evenings are conducted in person within the school building. On arrival you will need to sign into a register located in the main school hall where you will also have an opportunity to look through your children's learning whilst you wait for your appointment.

### **Open Evening**

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November (5 – 6:30pm) we will be holding our annual open evening event where we open our doors to show our community our excellent school.

This is a chance for you and your children to see the school and gain further insight around what the children are learning, how they learn and the resources that are available to them. It is also a wonderful opportunity to travel further afield within the school; from Nursery through to Year 2. There will be a "scavenger hunt" challenge that the children can partake in during the open evening event and every child that takes part will be entered into prize draw.

If you know of any other friends or family that may also wish to view the school (especially if they have children who will be due to start school next September), then please share this information with them.

Please [click here](#) to see our Open Evening poster.

## Summer Scrapbook Challenge

We were, again, delighted to have had such an enthusiastic approach to our Summer Scrapbook Challenge. So many of our families have spent time and energy preparing the most beautiful books which will serve as a lovely collection of memories for summer 2023. I have read each and every one that came back into our school, and they are all so brilliant. This year, I have loved the variety of presentation styles and looking at how the children have really kept their writing stamina up over the summer break. I have enjoyed captions, photos, drawings, and sentence writing. The children have also been given the chance to talk about their scrapbooks with their classes which they have done proudly and with confidence. Every child that brought their scrapbook in to show us will receive a certificate as a reward for their efforts. Thank you for spending time with your child putting these together. It has meant that the taught skills that they use in writing have been maintained during the break, meaning that we can continue to ensure that your children make good progress, in partnership with families. It has also given teachers a talking point with their new classes and ensured that they have got to know them much better, quicker. Well done, Eastfield!



Mrs Worth



## Birthday Tables

This week we continued with our very popular birthday tables at Eastfield (for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2). These are specially decorated tables in the hall during lunchtime. The children choose a friend from their class to sit with them on the birthday table, they each get a cake made by Mrs Dunn (cakes always made according to any dietary requirements) and the other children in the dining hall sing 🎵 'Happy Birthday' 🎵

We usually have two birthday table days a week if possible so your child will get an opportunity to sit on the table on, **or around** their birthday.

If your child has a birthday at a weekend, or during any of the school holidays they will still automatically be allocated a birthday table. (If your child had a birthday in early September then they will have had a birthday table this week)

More good news is- parents do not have to book or provide anything! This is all organised by the school office and the lunchtime team here at Eastfield.

### **Lunchtime clubs**

Your children may have come home over the last couple of weeks, excited to share with you that the school are providing lunchtime clubs. These are clubs that the staff of Eastfield volunteer to run during one of their lunch breaks. As with many aspects of school life, our staff have been enthusiastic to offer their time in providing as many club opportunities as we can. For the next half term, the lunch clubs are as follows:

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Playtime leaders with Titch & Leo (Sport coaches)	Gardening Club with Miss Webb & Mrs Grice	Jazzy readers with Mrs Worth	Magical Maths with Mrs Hill	
Music Club with Mrs Dale	Spinney Club with Miss Cort	Lego Club with Miss Wright	Curriculum Support with Mrs Summerfield	

Lunch clubs are organised purely within school and there isn't anything as parent/carers you need to do. We discuss with the children what clubs are available, they volunteer themselves for clubs they'd like to go to and then the staff running the clubs select the children who will attend their club for the half term period.

If your child has been selected on this occasion to access one of the lunchtime clubs on offer, they will have already brought a slip home indicating which club that is and on which day they will be attending. All children accessing a lunch club will have their lunch in the hall first and then attend the club from 12:30pm onwards.

Towards the end of October, we will review how many sessions have been able to commence for each club and where appropriate, complete the select process again for a new group of children to access the clubs on offer for the Autumn 2 term.

Providing that the clubs we are offering are sustainable and manageable, this selection process will be considered at the end of each half term throughout the whole of the academic year.

### **Education Inclusion Family Advisor**

Education Inclusion Family Advisors offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment. The Education Inclusion Family Advisor for our school is Charlotte Dean.

To find out more about what Charlotte could support you with and/or the ways in which she could support you and your family, please [click here](#). You can also [click here](#) to find a range of dates of workshops that are available for parent/carers to sign up to attend to find out more about this service.

### **St Ives RUFC Minis**

St Ives Rugby Club is situated on Somersham road, St Ives and are a great community club to be part of.

The 2023-24 season has only just begun and it's not too late to get signed up.

The minis training and match sessions are open to u8's (Year 3 children) and u7s (Year 2 children). Year 1 children are very welcome to join and attend training sessions however they will not be able to join in matches until they are 6 years of age. Therefore, if your child turns 6 between now and December, they can join training this side of Christmas. If they turn 6 between January and August 2024, they are welcome to join training from January onwards.

Training and matches take place on Sunday's from 10am.

For further information, please email [info@stive-afc.co.uk](mailto:info@stive-afc.co.uk)

### **Peterborough United Foundation - October Holiday Camps**

Peterborough United Foundation are pleased to announce that our October holiday camp bookings are now live!

For further information, please see the links below and/or visit their website

<https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/peterboroughunited/>

[October holiday Camps](#)

[Goalkeepers holiday camp](#)

### **Safer Schools Newsletter**

Please [click here](#) for September's edition of Cambridgeshire Constabulary Safer Schools Newsletter, which we hope will offer support and advice to you regardless of the age of your child(ren).

The subjects that are covered in this newsletter are as follows:

- Return to school: Safety tips to protect pedestrians and cyclists.
- Cannabis Edibles: Awareness message for parents/carers
- NSPCC: Report Remove Campaign

### **Jeans for Genes**

A huge thank you to everyone who took part on Jeans for Genes today and/or who were able to make a donation to this wonderful charity. In total, so far, the school has raised £113! If you haven't yet donated and would still like to please [click on this link](#)

### **Parent/Carer SEND survey**

Pinpoint, SENDIASS and the Local Authority have worked together to create a short questionnaire for parents and carers to tell them what you think about the support for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in Cambridgeshire. They will use the information to develop, improve and celebrate good support for children with SEND. The survey results will be shared with parents, carers, schools and settings twice a year.

To find out more about the SEND Local Offer and access the Parent And Carer SEND Survey (PASS) please [click here](#).

### **Important dates for your diaries**

- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September – Life in Early Years information session (6:30pm).
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Individual Photograph Day.
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – ESA Annual General Meeting (7pm). All are welcome to attend.
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October – Parent/Carer evenings.

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- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September – Vision Screening for children in Reception. *Please see the email sent out on 12<sup>th</sup> September by Mrs Unwin for further information.*
  - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – ESA Film Night (more information to follow in the next Newsletter).
  - Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Half term break.
  - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – ESA Sparkly Disco (3:30 – 5pm). **SAVE THE DATE.** More information will follow soon.
  - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November - Otter Class Assembly (9 – 9:45am).
  - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Open Evening (5:00 – 6:30pm).
  - Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November - Raccoon Class Assembly (9 – 9:45am).
  - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November – ESA Christmas Jumper Swap Day (more information on this to follow soon).
  - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Year 2 Phonic, Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Café (2:30pm).
  - Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Owl Class Assembly (9 – 9:45am).
  - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November - Hedgehog Class Assembly (9 – 9:45am).
  - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need.
  - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Flu Vaccinations will be taking place in school. More information about this nearer the time.
  - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Nursery Nativity (2:30pm).
  - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Nativity (2:15pm).
  - Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Nativity (9:15am).
  - Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Nursery Nativity (10:30am).
  - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December – ESA Christmas Jumper Day.
  - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December – ESA Winter Wonderland fundraising event (3:15pm). **SAVE THE DATE.** More information to follow nearer the time.



- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Concert (5pm). SAVE THE DATE. More information to nearer the time.
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Dinner.
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December - ESA Film Night (3:15 – 5pm).
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Party Lunch  
Christmas Party afternoon
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Christmas Holiday break.
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> & Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – Inset training days (school closed).
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Start of Spring term.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mrs Summerfield". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mrs Summerfield

