

Dear Parents and carers,

We've had a wonderful couple of weeks from Key Stage 1 class assembly performances to foundation stage investigating who left glitter trails across their classrooms!

Despite the change in weather and a few damp playtimes, the children have been brilliant. As always, they are showing great enthusiasm for their overarching topics and learning.

Safeguarding and child protection

Eastfield Infant & Nursery School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Nothing is more important to us than the safety and welfare of our pupils. If you have any concerns, please speak to a member of the team.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is myself, Mrs Summerfield. Mrs Worth, Mrs Grice and Mrs Oliver are our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDLs). Our Safeguarding Governor is Hannah Duarte.

Please take a look at our [Safeguarding page](#) on the school website for information on:

- Early Help
- Online Safety
- Operation Encompass
- Resources for Parent/Carers
- The Prevent Duty
- Other information

Online Safety – Jessie and Friends: Online safety education for 4-7s

Children are accessing technology and the internet at a younger age than ever before. It's never too early to talk to your child about what they do online and who to tell if they come across anything online that makes them feel worried, scared or sad.



Jessie & Friends is a series of three animations that follow the adventures of Jessie, Tia and Mo as they begin to navigate the online world, watching videos, sharing pictures and playing games. There's also a storybook for each episode, to help you and your child keep the conversation going.

We use these animations and characters with the children in school when talking about online safety and teaching computing, so they will be familiar with them.

Please follow this [link](#) to see how you could use these online safety materials at home with your children to reinforce the messages we are teaching them in school.

Parent/Carer Feedback

Thank you to the families of Eastfield Infant & Nursery that have taken the time to complete our survey. We have been really pleased to hear that every parent/carers who completed the survey would recommend Eastfield to another parent/carers and equally felt that their children were safe and happy at our school.

As always, we are keen to know what we are getting right for our school community and what we could do to be even better. There were some parent/carers that were unsure of a couple of things that we do here at Eastfield and what we promote, so I wanted to take the opportunity to clarify some of those points:

- **What my child is learning...**

Some parent/carers were unsure what their children are learning at school. If you find yourself in this position, please do refer to the following forms of communication that we send out and are available on our school website.

Parent/Carer briefings – these are emailed out at the start of every half term for every year group to inform you what your child will be learning for the next 6/7/8 weeks. Once emailed out, they are uploaded onto the school website in the ["our classes" section](#).

Weekly notifications – Nursery and Reception have weekly overviews of their learning that are emailed out by the school office. If you are not receiving these then please contact Mrs Unwin for your contact details to be checked.

Curriculum at Eastfield – our school website holds all the information you need to know about all subject areas covered across all year groups. This can be found in the ["teaching and learning" section](#) of the school website.

- **High expectations for children...**

Several parent/carers seemed unsure whether the school has high expectations for their children. The staff here at Eastfield are dedicated to developing a life-long love of learning for children who attend our school, within a safe, inclusive and stimulating environment. We will adapt to changing circumstances to provide and support both communal and individual learning, within the local community and the school. Through high expectations and encouragement, we will enable fulfilment and success.

The commitments we will make to you as parent/carers and to the children who attend our school are as follows:

- Provide a safe environment for pupils in which adults are supportive and vigilant in all aspects of safeguarding.
 - Ensure well-being threads strongly through our curriculum and experiences to support positive mental health within our school community.
 - Establish strong relationships between and within home, school and the community.
 - Provide a child centred approach to learning through a rich topic-based curriculum which excites children.
 - Enable children to make links in their learning and support them to develop important skills to become life-long learners.
 - Have high expectations of behaviour from all within our community through clear and consistent systems and communication.
 - Ensure that our practise is of a consistently high standard that reflects changing circumstances through continued professional development and ongoing reflection.
- **Clubs and activities...**

Some parent/carers appear to be unsure of the club offer we have at Eastfield. As a reminder, this is what we currently offer:

- **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. The current lunchtime clubs on offer are:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Playtime leaders with Titch & Leo (Sport coaches)	Gardening Club with Miss Webb & Mrs Grice	Jazzy readers with Mrs Worth	Magical Maths with Mrs Hill	Curriculum Support (Y2) with Mrs Summerfield
Music Club with Mrs Dale	Spinney Club with Miss Cort	Lego Club with Miss Wright		

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 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.

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.

o **After school clubs**

These are clubs that we offer to children within main school through external providers. The current selection of after school clubs on offer are:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Multi-skills with Huntingdon District Council Sports	Gymnastics with Stephen Van Zyl	Yoga with Verity Windmill	Rugby tots with Alex Wilson-Pearce

Mrs Unwin emails parent/carers about these clubs so families can choose whether to sign their children up to them or not. They do come at an extra cost, and this is payable to the external professionals/companies providing this extra-curricular opportunity.

Children in Need “Be SPOTacular”

A huge thank you for all your generosity and support for Children in Need this year. As a school we raised £117.



Reception and Nursery Nativity productions

The Nursery and Reception teams are busy beginning their organisations for the upcoming Nativity productions. Further information on how to reserve tickets has been emailed this week.

In the meantime, make sure you have these dates and timings saved in your calendar:

• **Nursery Nativity**

Tuesday 5th December at 2:30pm

Thursday 7th December at 10:30am

- **Reception Nativity**

Wednesday 6th December at 2:15pm

Thursday 7th December at 9:15am

Throughout this academic year's productions, we would like to continue to collect voluntary money donations towards "Safe Haven for Caitlin". Caitlin is a Cambridgeshire girl, who two years ago was diagnosed with Batten's Disease. This is a degenerative disease of which there is currently no cure. Fundraising for Caitlin and her family will enable them to make much needed alterations to their home to allow safe and functional living space as well as provide the whole family with opportunities to make as many memories as possible before Caitlin's condition deteriorates further. More information on Safe Haven for Caitlin and her condition can be [found here](#).



If you are in a position to do so, donations to this charity and cause can be made through the [Schoolgateway](#) and by clicking "Safe Haven for Caitlin". We will keep this link active for the remainder of this academic year and transfer the final funds, after all productions have taken place across school have taken place. Last year we raised a total of £87 for Caitlin and her family.

ESA Winter Wonderland (Friday 8th December at 3:15pm)

Winter Wonderland is fast approaching, and the ESA are busy organising and securing some lovely stalls for the event. These will include stalls, refreshments and a Santa's grotto!

There are only 11 slots left available for the Santa's Grotto so if you have not yet booked your slot, please do so quickly via [School Gateway](#). The Grotto is by pre-booking only and tickets will not be available to purchase on the day.

Other ESA upcoming events

- **Christmas Jumper Day**

On Friday 8th December, we would like to invite the children to come to school dressed in festive clothing for a small donation to the ESA.

To donate, if you can, please use [School Gateway](#) and choose "ESA Christmas Jumper Day".

- **Christmas Hamper Raffle**

Thank you to everyone that was able to donate items towards our Christmas Hamper Raffle Hampers. Raffle tickets are £1 each and are sale now until 12pm on Thursday 7th December.

To purchase your raffle tickets, please use [School Gateway](#) and choose "Christmas Hamper 2023 raffle ESA"

The lucky winners will be announced via email on Thursday 7th December, after 4pm, and the hampers can be collected from our Winter Wonderland

event on Friday 8th December.



- **ESA Film Night**

Straight after school on the Monday 18th December (please note change of date) we would like to invite the children to stay in school to have a film night. Reception will have the opportunity to watch the following film in Rabbit Class whilst Year one and Year two will join together to watch the following film in the school hall. Popcorn and drink will be supplied too.

Reception	Year One & Year Two
 <p>Holiday Classics Rated U</p>	 <p>The Grinch Rated U</p>

If your child wishes to take part in this after school ESA event, we request a donation of £3 per child made payable through the [Schoolgateway](#) entitled "ESA Film Night". **Deadline to book this is Thursday 15th December**

Children can then be collected from the following locations at 5pm

Reception – Rabbit Class

Year 1 – Owl Class

Year 2 – School Hall (from the courtyard)

Christmas Dance Workshops

On Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December (during the school day), Nursery, Reception, Year one and Year two will all have an opportunity to take part in a Dance Workshop led by Rachel, our Street Dance Coach.

These Pantomime Dance Workshops offer a festive celebration of movement and storytelling, as the children create the magic of panto and explore a traditional panto tale in your primary school through dance.

The children will work alongside Rachel to retell Aladdin and will be chock-full of storytelling, classic panto tricks and 'it's behind you' humour... Oh yes it is!

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the ESA for agreeing to fund this fun festive event for the children.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas Dinner will take place on Friday 15th December. There is no need to book this dinner option in advance. Here is the menu for our Christmas dinner and a snapshot of what it will look like on the day. Due to this day being Christmas Dinner- the usual Friday menu item of fish fingers will be on Thursday 14th instead.

Please note: Children with dairy allergies will be able to eat all aspects of the main Christmas dinner options and will be provided with the choice of dairy free ice cream or a dairy free Christmas biscuit for their pudding.



Roast Turkey
Pigs in blankets
Stuffing ball
Gravy
(Halal and Vegetarian options will be available)

Mashed potato, roast potatoes, carrots & peas

Christmas Ice-cream
Christmas biscuit
Rice crispy treat

Christmas party lunch

To coincide with our afternoon of Christmas parties, on Wednesday 20th December, the school dinner option will be "Party food". Here is the menu of what will be offered to the children on this day.

There is no need to book this dinner option in advance. All children who require a dairy free lunch option will also be catered for.

Cheese & Ham wrap
Cheese wrap
Tuna wrap

Cheese straw
Sausage Roll
(Halal and Vegetarian options will be available)

Crisps
Cucumber & Carrot sticks

Iced sponge
Christmas biscuits
Jelly
Fruit pots

Christmas parties



The children will be taking part in their class Christmas parties on the afternoon of Wednesday 20th December and are welcome to come to school dressed for the occasion. We will not be asking parent/carers to make contributions to party food, as the children will have the option of a party food lunch on this day (please see above). We're all looking forward to a school wide afternoon of festive fun!

Pupil Premium Funding

Pupil Premium represents additional funding that the government gives to schools for each pupil considered to be disadvantaged.

Poverty or low income is the single most important factor in predicting a child's future life chances, with many pupils in low income families having low attainment by age 16. The Government believes that the Pupil Premium is the best way to address these underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.

If you are receiving any of the eligible benefits listed below, you can apply for free school meals and allow your school to receive the Pupil Premium funding.

Additionally, as part of the school registration process and our yearly data checks, you will also have the option to sign up for pupil premium.

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit - but no element of Working Tax Credit - and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC)) that does not exceed £16,190
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (as from 1 April 2018)

If you feel you could/should be in a position for your child to be receiving this additional support then please click the following button to apply

[Apply for Pupil Premium/free school meals](#)

St Ives Town Football Club

St Ives Town Football Club have recently launched a competition where they are inviting children to design a Christmas football themed programme cover for one their matches over the festive period.



The competition is open to children up to the age of 11, and all the details of how to take part can be found via the club website. The link to the page is here [Christmas Programme Competition \(stivestownfc.co.uk\)](http://stivestownfc.co.uk).

The closing date of entries is Friday 8 December.

Way 2 Go Newsletter

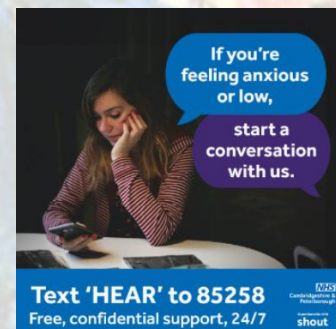


Please [click here](#) for Cambridge County Council latest newsletter addition on Road Safety. In this edition you will find information on active travel solutions, winter driving advice, tyre safety, and night time travel advice.

Text "HEAR" to 85258

A new mental health free text messaging support service has launched in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to help those who are struggling to cope.

Launched by NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough and in partnership with the national service [SHOUT](#), the free to use text service HEAR 85258 provides real-time support to people of all ages who are struggling with their mental health.



When texting the word HEAR to 85258, the person will be connected to a trained volunteer who will take them from a place of crisis to a place of calm. During the confidential and anonymous conversation, the texter will be supported and signposted to local and national mental health services.

Texting HEAR to 85258 is free, discreet and runs 24/7. It won't appear on any bills and requires no app, data, password, or registration. It is available for anybody who lives, works, or studies in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

For more information about what mental health services are available in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, visit www.keep-your-head.com.

If you feel your or somebody's life is at risk due to their mental health, dial 111 and listen for the option for the mental health crisis team.

Important dates for your diaries

- Tuesday 5th December – Nursery Nativity (2:30pm).
- Wednesday 6th December – Reception Nativity (2:15pm).

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- Thursday 7th December – Reception Nativity (9:15am).
 - Thursday 7th December – Nursery Nativity (10:30am).
 - Friday 8th December – ESA Christmas Jumper Day.
 - Friday 8th December – ESA Winter Wonderland fundraising event (3:15pm).
 - Monday 11th December – Carol Concert (5pm).
 - Friday 15th December – Christmas Dinner.
 - Monday 18th December - ESA Film Night (3:15 – 5pm) – **PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE**
 - Wednesday 20th December – Party Lunch
Christmas Party afternoon
 - Thursday 21st December to Friday 5th January – Christmas Holiday break.
 - Thursday 4th & Friday 5th January 2023 – Inset training days (school closed).
 - Monday 8th January – Start of Spring term. (please note Nursery will be closed this day as staff will be doing home visits for new children)
 - Tuesday 9th January- Nursery re-opens

Yours sincerely



Mrs Summerfield