

Eastern Green Junior School



Sutton Avenue,
Coventry,
United Kingdom,
CV5 7EG

Headteacher: Mrs S Nealon
Assistant Headteachers: Mrs N Albans, Miss B Colbourne

RESPECT • READY • SAFE

Friday 22nd December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone for a wonderful first term as headteacher at Eastern Green Junior School. I have been overwhelmed by the positive response from all members of the school community; thank you so much to everyone and especially those who sent me Christmas cards. I was very touched by some of the wonderful messages and am so grateful.

Our children have been incredible this last week; being in school for such a long time is unprecedented, but all our children have taken it in their stride, although there is a huge amount of excitement in the air today, as I am sure you can well imagine! The Christmas concerts were beautiful - the children sang their hearts out and well done to everyone for a rousing rendition of The Twelve Days of Christmas! I have never sung the words "Two Turtle Doves" so loudly, although nobody beats Mr Hawkswood, our Chair of Governors, for raising the roof as loudly as he did. Such great fun and what a way to get into the spirit of Christmas.

I hope you all have a safe and happy Christmas holiday; look after each other. We will see you back in school on Monday the 8th January to begin 2024 (which still sounds to me like a date from a Sci-Fi movie!)

Kindest regards,
Mrs Nealon - Headteacher

Monday 8th January - Thursday 8th February

Calendar: Spring One

Monday 8th January - All children back to school after the Christmas break - Sponsorship competition launched in school - details coming soon!

Wednesday 10th January - Year 6 Manor Adventure Meeting 5.15pm for Year 6 parents

Thursday 11th January - Young Voices! Year 6 out

Friday 12th January - RE day - Epiphany

Tuesday 16th January - Y3/4 girls' football tournament AT7 Centre 3.45 -5pm

Wednesday 17th January - Year 3 Stone Age workshop

Monday 22nd January - DT week in school! Deadline for Sponsorship money to be returned to school.

Monday 5th February - Children's Mental Health Week

Y5/6 boys football at Finham 3.30pm

Tuesday 6th February - Y3/4 girl's football tournament AT7 centre 3.45 -5pm

Wednesday 7th February - Safer Internet Day

Thursday 8th February - Last day of half term. Star Assembly at 9.05 - Parents with invitations welcomed to share in this assembly with us.

Winners of best book corner competition revealed!

Friday 9th February - TEACHER TRAINING DAY School closed

Monday 19th February - First Day back after February Half term break

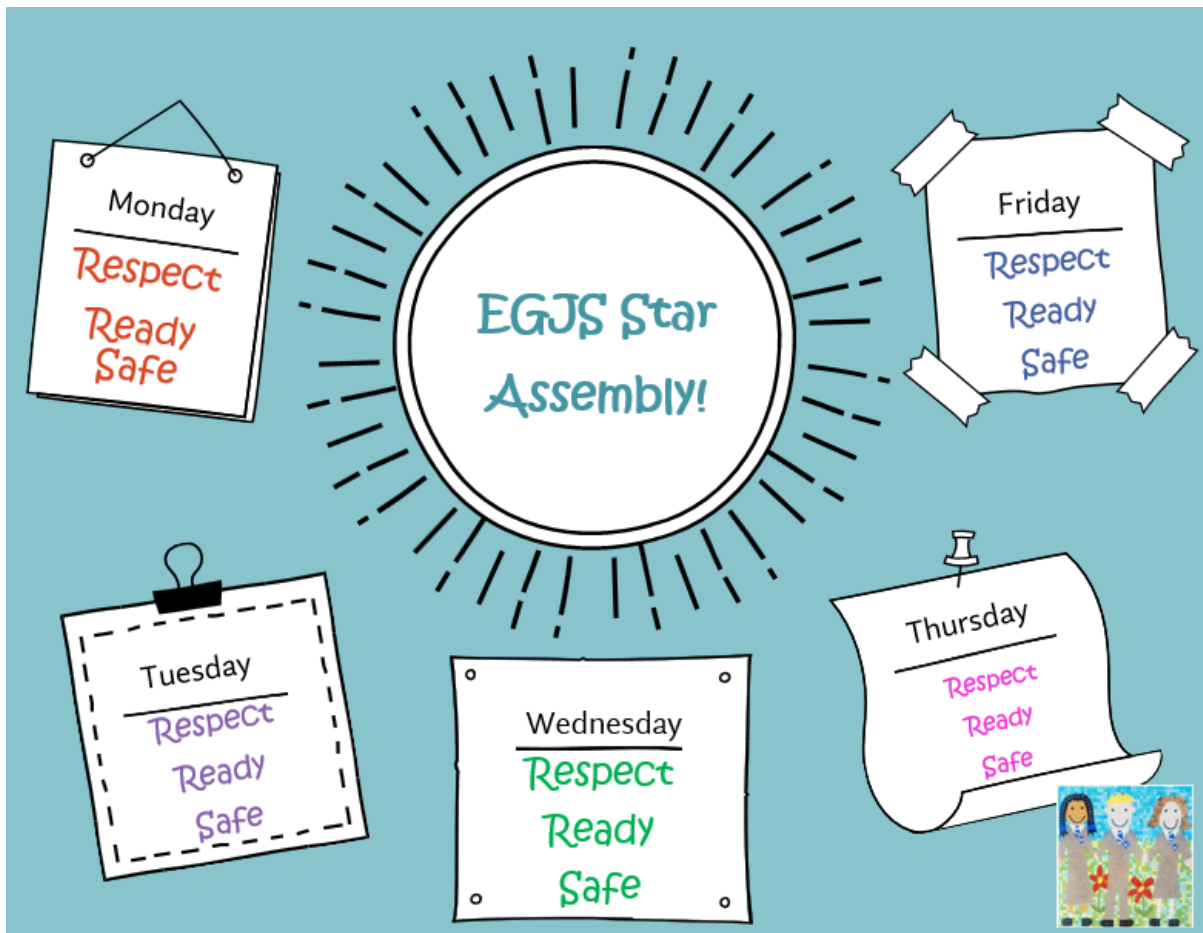
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Today, we had our second Eastern Green 'Star' Assembly, and welcomed into school the families of our eight half term stars! It was such a pleasure to hear about these wonderful pupils and all they have been up to this half term. Every single one of these children embody our school values and endeavour to 'live out' those values in everything they do. Well done to our 'Stars!' You are all incredible in every way.



Year 3	3C	3PS
	Tabetha	Niamh P
Year 4	4L	4C
	Reuben	James
Year 5	5M	5C
	Cara	Danny
Year 6	6AC	6L
	Isla	Ava L



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Half Termly 'Spotlight on Sport!' by Mrs Pearson-Dodd

We are celebrating another busy half term of sport here at Eastern Green. Each year group has yet again completed at least 2 hours of PE lessons a week on top of their daily mile, playtimes and active movement breaks all of which encourage 60 active minutes each day. Year 5 have been dancing with Ricky each Tuesday and produced some amazing, sparkly routines! Year 3 also had a lesson with him, while Y5 were on their trip, and they LOVED their first experience of Ricky! It was the turn of Year 4 to receive tennis coaching from a professional coach and they have had lots of fun and made so much progress. Year 6 have been busy preparing for the sports hall athletics heats in their lessons and their determination and hard work made choosing the team *very* difficult.

After the staff training in October, all the children have been enjoying orienteering lessons. They can now all navigate using a map and use markers to make sure it's the right way around. Year 5 took part in the orienteering Christmas challenge last week and the other year groups had their turn this week.

In the run up to Christmas classes have been enjoying taking part in an active advent calendar where they do a different challenge each day to get them moving. There are also activities you can do at home over the weekend which Mrs Nealon has been adding to the newsletter each week. Years 3-6 girls and boys have continued training for the football season ahead with lots of fixtures coming up in the new year! Two teams of Y3/4 girls represented us at match day 2 and 3 at the AT7 centre playing some incredible football. Their progress each month is unbelievable! Well done girls, we can't wait to see how you get on in 2024! Thank you to the staff and parents who have helped with lifts and supported our girls! Our winning Year 5 dodgeball team went to represent us at the county finals in Solihull. Just as before they were incredible at demonstrating the school games values and were brilliant at the dodgeball too! They finished in the top 14 teams from the whole of Warwickshire and West Midlands. What an achievement!

A team of 12 children from across the school went to the first ever HADO completion at the new HADO arena in Coventry. They got to experience a completely unique and new sport. It was so much fun and they worked brilliantly in their teams. Mrs Nealon, Miss Coventry and I also got to experience it in a staff session. We are hoping for more HADO opportunities in the new year. This month we also took 23 of our super Year 6s to the sports hall athletics heat at the Xcel Centre. They participated in many different events such as: relays, obstacle courses, long jumps, high jumps, speed bounces, javelin throwing and much more. All of their individual scores were combined, and they came third on the day. Well done year 6! We were due to take 28 of our fabulous Y4's to an ENGAGE rugby event last week but unfortunately it was postponed-the children were so understanding despite the disappointment and we look forward to seeing how they get on in the new year. This week, our last event of 2023 happened; we took 8 Year 4 children to their school games values dodgeball event. They were simply amazing as always and won GOLD and are through to the next round! How amazing!

Mr Lashley has joined our team here at Eastern Green. He is helping us out by running some lunchtime and after school clubs and also supporting us in Y3 and Y5 PE lessons. He'll be working with the other year groups after Christmas. He's been a great addition to the EGJS team. It's not just the children who have been working hard though - I attended the annual PE conference just this week and I've been learning how to play spike-ball, disc golf and goal ball. Make sure you keep an eye out for these in the future alongside lots more that I've got planned for our children.

We've had another full menu of after school and lunchtime clubs on offer again including dance, gymnastics, football, maths darts, hockey, multi sports and tennis! Thank you to everyone who has supported our clubs this half term.

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PE next half term

Clubs Next Half Term: There's still plenty of time to sign up! If you have any questions please contact the office or Mrs Pearson-Dodd.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dodgeball Lego Club	Girl's football *LUNCHTIME* Dance with Ricky Singing Club Speed Stacking	Y 5/6 boy's football club (invitation only) *LUNCHTIME* Y 5/6 Netball	Y 3/4 boy's football club (invitation only) *LUNCHTIME* Musical Theatre Football	MARTS (Maths and Darts) Football

PE days SPRING ONE

Next half term PE days are as follows:

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday and Tuesday	Thursday and Friday	Wednesday and Thursday	Tuesday and Wednesday

Please come in kit on your PE days. We will be going outside still for as many of our sessions, so tracksuits and waterproofs are advised and warm tops! Please do ensure you have a coat in school also!

Safety note - Please ensure all jewellery is removed and hair is tied up for PE lessons.

EARRINGS CAN BE DANGEROUS!

Thank you again for an amazing half term of sports!
Mrs Pearson-Dodd

Attendance

If your child is absent please ensure that you call the school office on 02476 465077 or email:

admin@easterngreen.coventry.sch.uk

Please specify the following: Child's full name and class, reason for absence - please do give as much information as possible. If we do not receive confirmation of absence this could result in an unauthorised absence. Please be reminded that morning registration is taken from **8.50 until 9.05 am**. Children who arrive after this time will need to sign in. As the registers close at 9.05 am, anyone who arrives after this time will be marked as late. After 9.30 am the mark will be unauthorised. **Please do support your child's learning by ensuring that they are attending school regularly and keep track of their attendance percentage. Many thanks.** 😊

PTA Update

Thank you to everyone who donated prizes, had a go on the games at the Christmas Fayre and bought raffle tickets at the Christmas performances. We raised £1769.82 at the Fayre and £310.89 on the raffle. Special thanks to Year 6 for their amazing games and enthusiasm! All money raised by the PTA goes back to support the children through funding towards trips or buying resources for them to enjoy in school.

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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

It can be difficult to stay away from technology and devices, and sometimes this means that people – of any age – can find it hard to be present in the moment. As a period when families are able to spend some quality time together and enjoy each other's company, Christmas is the perfect opportunity to step away from our phones, laptops and consoles and concentrate on the things that really matter. Follow our top ten tips for a tech-free festive period and make the most of this holiday season. Merry Christmas!

1. BOARD GAMES CAN BE FUN (HONEST)

OK, no one wants a repeat of that incident when your youngest had to pay triple rent on Mayfair, but going back to basics with a card or board game can be a fantastic bonding experience. Choose a game that even the youngest members of your family can enjoy and have a fun tech-free time.

2. MAKE YOUR OWN DECORATIONS

Spending time on arts and crafts is a brilliant way to relax and spend some productive time offline. Making your own Christmas decorations as a family can become a wholesome tradition and leave you with some treasured mementos, too.

3. GO FOR A WINTER WALK

Not much beats wrapping up warm on a crisp December day and taking a stroll. Whether alone or with the family, a walk is a fantastic way to clear your head and relish the break from hectic normal life. As an extra festive treat, why not make a flask of hot chocolate to take with you?

4. BAKE SOME FESTIVE TREATS

Not all Christmas cooking has to be a stressful chore that's timed with military precision. Baking some simple festive treats like cookies doesn't have to take hours – and will make sure you're stocked up on tasty things to offer any friends or family members who pop round.

5. READ A FAMILY STORY TOGETHER

Turn story time into an event. Make the living room or bedroom into a tech-free space, light some candles, make some hot drinks and reach for a classic Christmas tale. It's a fantastic way to relax before bed, and the right story will help to get the whole family into the festive spirit.

6. TURN OFF NOTIFICATIONS

It sounds obvious, but turning off email and app notifications can give you more control of your relationship with technology. Getting into the habit of checking your phone periodically – rather than reacting every time a notification arrives – helps you to stay present in the moment.

7. FEED THE BIRDS

Food's hard to come by for wildlife in winter, so helping our feathered friends is a very worthwhile reason to put down those devices and reconnect with nature. Fill a bird feeder in the garden or take a snack for the ducks in your local park (but ditch the bread in favour of oats, rice or birdseed).

8. SET DAILY LIMITS

Many apps and devices let you set reminders to let you know how long you've used them for that day. Setting daily limits puts you firmly in charge of your time and will help to ensure you don't miss out on any family Christmas memories because you're engrossed in your phone or laptop.

9. GET ON YOUR BIKE

Exercise, such as going for a run or a bike ride is an excellent way to burn off some of those Yuletide calories while giving your brain and eyes a break from screen-based activity. Physical exertion also helps reduce anxiety and releases endorphins which can improve your sense of wellbeing.

10. MAKE TIME FOR YOURSELF

There can be a lot of pressure to meet up with friends, make video calls and check in with people at Christmas – but remember that you need time to relax as well. Don't feel guilty about not replying to messages and emails immediately – the holiday is your chance to drop down a gear or two.

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#WakeUpWednesday