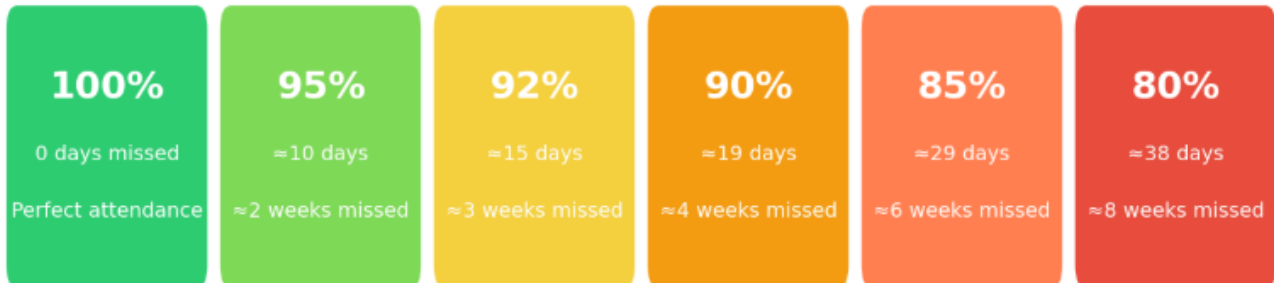


# Eastern Green Junior School

13<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Newsletter

## WHY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MATTERS



**80% attendance across primary school = MORE THAN A FULL YEAR OF EDUCATION MISSED**

Even small drops in attendance quickly add up to weeks of lost learning.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to see so much fantastic writing happening across the school this week. Children have really enjoyed getting creative and it has been a pleasure to see them experimenting with ambitious vocabulary, imaginative ideas and thoughtful sentence choices. Staff have been very impressed with the effort pupils have been putting into their writing and the pride they are taking in their work.

A quick reminder that our Easter Egg Raffle will be taking place soon. This is a long-standing tradition at Eastern Green and always a lovely event for the children. At the moment we haven't sold quite as many tickets as we would usually hope, so please do log on to MCAS to make sure your child has a raffle ticket. We would also be very grateful if, when you are doing your shopping over the next week or so, you could pop an Easter egg into your basket and send it into school. This helps ensure we have plenty of prizes for the raffle. Thank you, as always, for your support in helping us keep this special EGJS tradition alive for the children. 🐣🍫

### **A quick reminder to parents about mobile phones in school.**

Children should only bring a phone to school if they walk to and from school unaccompanied and need it for safety reasons. If your child does not travel to school independently, they do not need to bring a phone into school.

Any phones that are brought into school must be handed in at the school office on arrival, where they will be kept safely during the day and returned at the end of the school day.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep distractions to a minimum and ensuring that children remain focused on their learning during the school day.

Headteacher

# Diary Dates - Spring Term Two

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March** - Year 6 computing week

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** - Year 3 and 4 boys 'More than just a game' tournament

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** -

## Odd Socks for Down Syndrome Awareness

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, pupils at Eastern Green Junior School are invited to come to school wearing odd or brightly coloured socks to help us raise awareness of Down Syndrome.

The idea behind wearing odd socks comes from the fact that chromosomes look a little like pairs of socks, and people with Down syndrome have three copies of chromosome 21 instead of two. Wearing mismatched socks is a simple and fun way to start conversations about difference and inclusion. We look forward to seeing lots of colourful socks around school as we celebrate



the message that being different is something to be proud of. 🧦🧦

It is also *COMIC* relief on this date too - come to school with crazy hair to make us laugh! **Comic Relief - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

On **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**, we will be taking part in **Comic Relief** to help raise money for this fantastic charity.

This year's theme is all about laughter and making people smile, so we are inviting children to come to school with crazy hair for the day! The wilder and funnier the better - think colours, spikes, plaits, bows, wigs or anything that will make us laugh.

If you would like to support Comic Relief, we would welcome a small voluntary donation, which will go towards helping people facing poverty and hardship both in the UK and around the world.

We are looking forward to seeing some brilliantly bonkers hairstyles and sharing lots of laughs together for a great cause! ❤️



**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** - Year 5 computing block

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** - Bowls event at the AT7 centre - children participating  
TBC

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Easter egg Raffle

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Star Assembly - parents invited to attend of children receiving awards

non uniform day - bring a gold coin for books!

In our ongoing drive to raise money for reading books, we will be inviting children to come in non-uniform to raise money for reading books in school

PM - Rock Steady assembly - parents of children participating in Rock Steady invited to join us

**BREAK UP FOR EASTER FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH - return to school  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

### Pencil Cases and Equipment

As we move through the school year, please could we ask parents and carers to **check their child's pencil case and refresh any equipment that may be missing or running out**. They don't have to be fancy but please ensure your child has what they need!

We encourage children to **take responsibility for bringing and maintaining their own equipment**, as this helps prepare them for the expectations they will encounter when they move on to **secondary school**.

Please ensure your child has the basic items they need each day, such as:

- Pencils
- Pens
- A glue stick
- A ruler
- A rubber
- A pencil sharpener

Having the correct equipment in

school helps children to stay organised, ready to learn and able to fully participate in lessons without disruption.

Thank you for your support in helping children develop these important habits of organisation and independence.





In Celebration Assembly each week, two pupils from each class are chosen to receive a Headteacher’s Award and a Values Award. These awards are for pupils who consistently demonstrate our school values, or demonstrate to the teacher something exceptional that week that deserves recognition.

## **This week’s Headteacher Award and Values Award Winners are:**


Year 3	3C – Miss Clarke		3J – Miss Judge	
	Eddie	Jenson	Cameron	Isla
Year 4	4C – Miss Coventry		4BL – Mrs Loha & Miss Bradbury	
	Eric	Alana-Mae	Oliver T	Maisie-Mai
Year 5	5C – Mr Cledwyn		5LA – Mrs Lawless & Mrs Albans	
	Edgar	Jess	Oscar	Samuel
Year 6	6PS – Mrs Pearson-Dodd & Mrs Skippins		6M – Miss Moore	
	Jayden	Amelia	Alex	Macy

### o Kind Hearts Award

Each week, children and staff are invited to nominate a ‘Kind Hearts’ winner – pupils who truly live our school values and show kindness, empathy and care in their everyday interactions. Our nomination folder is always open for members of our school community to recognise someone who has gone out of their way to show kindness to others.

This week’s Kind Hearts winner is Elena in 6PS.


Although Elena has only recently joined our school community, she has settled in beautifully and has already made a very positive impression. She has been noticed for her warm nature, lovely manners and the thoughtful way she interacts with others. Elena consistently shows kindness and consideration to those around her and has embraced life at EGJS with a wonderfully positive attitude.

We are so pleased to have Elena as part of our school family and are very proud of how well she has settled in. Well done, Elena! 

### Lunchtime Award

Each week, our midday team nominate a ‘Lunchtime Award’ winner – children who consistently demonstrate our three school values and show beautiful behaviour both in the dining hall and out on the playground.

This week’s Lunchtime Award winner is Millie P in Year 3. Millie has been noticed for her lovely manners, kind nature and the way she plays so happily and inclusively with others. She consistently shows our school values at lunchtime and is always a pleasure for the midday team to see around school.

Well done, Millie – we are very proud of you! 

## Attendance Matters – Every Day Counts

Being in school every day makes a huge difference to children's learning, confidence and friendships. Lessons build on one another, so when children miss school, they often miss key explanations and opportunities to practise new skills.

We understand that children will sometimes be genuinely unwell, but regular absence – even when it seems small – quickly adds up.

**Attendance percentages can be misleading. If a child scored 95% or even 90% in a test, we would think that was excellent.**

**However, when it comes to attendance, those percentages actually represent a significant amount of missed learning. 95% attendance = around 10 days missed (two weeks of learning).**

- **90% attendance = almost four weeks of school missed.**

Across a whole primary school journey, this can add up to **months of lost education.**

When attendance drops into the **80s**, it becomes a serious concern:

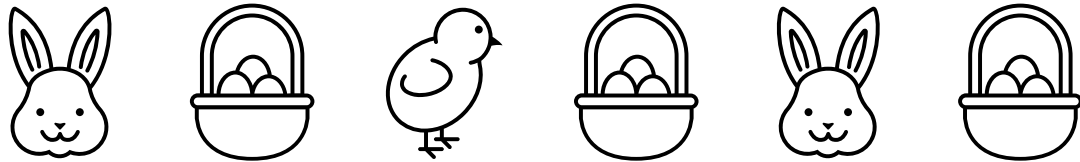
- **85% attendance = about 29 days missed** (around six weeks).
- **80% attendance = about 38 days missed** (almost half a term).

If a child had **80% attendance throughout primary school**, they would miss **more than a full year of education.**

Regular attendance helps children build **routine, resilience, friendships and strong learning habits**. If you are experiencing difficulties with attendance, please speak to us — we are always here to help.

Our aim is simple: **every child in school, every day, ready to learn.**

# Easter Egg Donations



It's that time of year again! We are now beginning to collect Easter Egg donations for our children's Easter Raffle, which will take place at the end of term.

Our Easter raffle is always a really exciting event for the children and helps create a lovely sense of celebration as we approach the Easter holidays. We would be extremely grateful for any Easter egg donations families are able to contribute to help make it a success. If you are able to donate, please bring Easter eggs to the school office over the coming weeks.

**To give children the chance to win an Easter egg, raffle tickets will also need to be purchased via MCAS in the usual way. Please log on to MCAS to ensure your child has a ticket for the draw.**

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and generosity – it really does help us keep these special school traditions going for the children. 