



EASTERN GREEN

— JUNIOR SCHOOL —

RESPECT • READY • SAFE



30TH APRIL
2026
NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely week here at Eastern Green Junior School, with so much to celebrate across the school.



On Tuesday, our Year 5 and 6 girls' football team put up a valiant fight against Spon Gate School. The determination, teamwork and resilience they showed from start to finish made us incredibly proud; well done girls for representing the school so brilliantly.



We also had a team of Year 5 pupils take part in an archery competition this week. They approached the event with focus, enthusiasm and great sportsmanship, supporting one another throughout the challenges, another fantastic example of our school values in action.



Also on Tuesday, Miss Clarke (our music lead) took a group of our Year 5 musicians to King Henry VIII School to take part in their 'Come and Sing Day'. This wonderful event brought together children from a number of local primary schools for a full day of choral workshops, rehearsals and ensemble singing, all building towards a special performance in the Burgess Hall. It was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to develop their musical skills, grow in confidence and experience performing as part of a large group. The children represented Eastern Green brilliantly and were a real credit to the school throughout the day.



A quick reminder that the weather is currently doing its own thing! Please ensure your child brings a suitable raincoat to school each day. We always aim to get children outside at break and lunchtime wherever possible, so being prepared for showery weather is important.



Finally, Year 6 SATs are fast approaching. Over the next two weeks, it is vital that children are well rested and in school every day. Good sleep and strong attendance will make a significant difference to how confident and prepared they feel. SATs results are an important part of the transition to secondary school, helping to ensure children are placed appropriately and supported from the very start of Year 7. We are incredibly proud of how hard our Year 6 pupils have been working—they have shown real commitment, maturity and resilience, and we know they will give their very best.



Good attendance is essential for every child to succeed and thrive at school. When children are persistently absent, they miss key learning, fall behind their peers and can find it increasingly difficult to catch up—both academically and socially. This can impact confidence, friendships and overall wellbeing. Even what may seem like small amounts of time missed quickly add up to significant gaps in learning over the course of a year. We know that children who attend regularly feel more secure, achieve more highly and are better prepared for the next stage of their education. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school every day, on time, ready to learn.

JBrown
Headteacher

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.





EASTERN GREEN JUNIOR SCHOOL

DIARY DATES

SUMMER TERM ONE



MONDAY 4th MAY –

School Closed for Bank Holiday Monday



WEDNESDAY 6th MAY –

Year 3 trip to Bishopwood!



MONDAY 11th MAY –

Year 6 SATS WEEK – All Year 6 pupils in school on time for SATS week

During SATs week, the tests are closely monitored by the Local Authority and must begin promptly at the scheduled time. Any child arriving late to school can negatively impact the start of the test session, which is something we must avoid. We therefore ask for your full support in ensuring your child is in school every day and on time, particularly during this important week.

Please note: Monday 11th May marks the start of Year 6 SATs Week, and it is essential that all Year 6 pupils arrive punctually each morning during this week so that the tests can run smoothly and calmly for everyone involved. Thank you for your cooperation and support.



FRIDAY 15th MAY –

NON UNIFORM DAY – bring a gold or silver coin to help replenish book stocks



MONDAY 18th MAY –

Walk to School Week – keep your eyes peeled for details – we want as many children as possible joining us to ‘walk to school’ this week 😊



WEDNESDAY 20th MAY –

Year 4 trip to Cadbury's World



FRIDAY 22nd MAY –

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TEACHER TRAINING DAY



MAY HALF TERM

MONDAY 25th MAY – FRIDAY 29th MAY

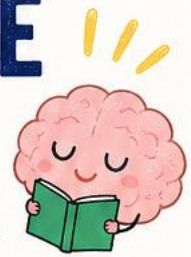


**RETURN TO SCHOOL
MONDAY 1st JUNE**





SCREENS, SCREEN TIME & CONCENTRATION



Helping our children to focus, learn and thrive

At our school, we are increasingly seeing the impact that high levels of screen time are having on children's concentration, communication and readiness to learn. Research shows that this is a growing concern nationally. By working together, we can help children build healthy habits that support their wellbeing, learning and development.

WHAT EXPERTS SAY

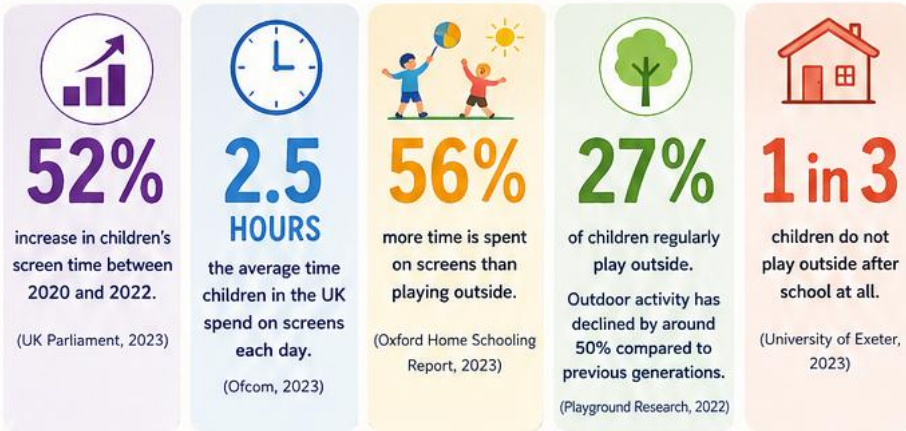
“High levels of screen exposure are linked to reduced attention spans and changes in attention-related brain activity.”
– Harvard Health Publishing

“Excessive screen time can negatively impact language development. Children exposed to more screen time show reduced vocabulary compared to their peers.”
– The Guardian, 2024

“The single biggest predictor of a child's academic success is the level of conversation they have at home.”
– University of Michigan Study

“Time spent outdoors is linked to better mental health, stronger physical health, improved focus and better academic performance.”
– World Health Organization

THE NUMBERS ARE WORRYING



WHAT WE ARE SEEING IN SCHOOL

We are noticing that some children are finding it harder to:



Sustain attention



Listen carefully



Engage in conversation



Manage frustration



Persevere with challenging tasks

Too much screen time – especially passive scrolling or gaming – can affect sleep, mood, behaviour and learning. When screens replace conversation, reading, play and outdoor experiences, children miss out on vital opportunities to develop the skills they need.

WHAT WE ASK OF FAMILIES

- LIMIT SCREEN TIME** – especially before bed and during school days.
- ENCOURAGE OUTDOOR PLAY** – aim for at least 60 minutes of physical activity outside each day.
- PRIORITISE CONVERSATION & READING** – talking, listening and reading together builds vocabulary, understanding and connections.
- BE MINDFUL OF BALANCE** – technology has its place, but balance is key for healthy development.

We know it's not always easy – screens are part of modern life and can be useful. Small, consistent changes can make a big difference.

DID YOU KNOW?



Children spend an average of **4-7 HOURS PER DAY** on screens (depending on age).
(Statista, 2023)



Children who read for pleasure daily are **2x more likely** to achieve higher levels in reading.
(National Literacy Trust, 2023)



Spending time outdoors improves focus, creativity, mood and academic performance.
(World Health Organization)



TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP OUR CHILDREN BUILD HEALTHY HABITS, STRONGER CONCENTRATION AND A LOVE OF LEARNING – FOR LIFE.

Thank you for your support – we truly value our partnership with you.

Healthy minds, happy children



**EASTERN GREEN
JUNIOR SCHOOL**

YEAR 3 TRIP to Bishops Wood!

OUR STONE AGE ADVENTURE



As part of our topic learning about **The Stone Age**, Year 3 will be visiting Bishops Wood for an exciting, hands-on day of learning and discovery.



DATE:
Wednesday
6th May



DEPARTURE:
Leaving school
at **8:30am**



RETURN:
Returning in time
for the end of the
school day



ARRIVAL TIME:
Please ensure your child
is in school between
8:15am – 8:20am
for a prompt departure.



Children will be
transported to Bishops
Wood by coach.

WHAT WE'LL BE DOING

The children will take part in a range of activities, including:



Making hurdles and fishing nets



Looking at different types of rocks and tools of the period



Finding out how important fire and charcoal were



Learning the practical skills of the time



Building a shelter



Producing cave art using natural materials



WHAT TO BRING



A packed lunch in a plastic bag (so it can be folded up and reused or recycled)



A waterproof coat
Full school uniform



Please ensure that all necessary permissions and forms have been completed and returned to school as soon as possible.

We are very much looking forward to what promises to be a memorable and enriching experience for our Year 3 pupils.
Thank you for your support!



OUR SCHOOL VALUES



RESPECT
We show kindness and care for others and our environment.



READY
We are prepared, focused and to learn.



SAFE
We keep ourselves and others safe in all that we do.



YEAR 4 Cadbury WORLD TRIP

A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE WE DON'T WANT OUR CHILDREN TO MISS!



Let us know – we're here to help



THANK YOU!

Thank you to those families who have already made their contribution—most payments are now in, with **seven still outstanding**.

We have also been genuinely moved by the kindness of some parents who have offered to contribute more than their own child's cost. That level of generosity is incredibly thoughtful and very much appreciated.



WHY CONTRIBUTIONS ARE SO IMPORTANT

As previously shared, school trips rely on voluntary contributions.

While payment cannot be enforced, the reality is that visits like this can only go ahead if enough contributions are received to **cover the costs of transport, entry, staffing and insurance**.

School budgets simply do not have the capacity to fund these trips without parental contributions.

There is also a significant amount of organisation involved behind the scenes, so timely payments are essential to allow plans to be secured.



PLEASE TALK TO US

If you are finding payment difficult, are unable to contribute, or do not wish your child to attend, please do let us know as early as possible.

We are keen to avoid repeated chasing and reminders, as this places additional pressure on staff and, understandably, can become quite frustrating for parents as well.

Early communication makes a real difference and helps us plan with clarity.



Memories that last a lifetime!



Thank you for your continued support in helping us make these opportunities possible.





CELEBRATING

Our Wonderful Pupils!



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.

★ HEADTEACHER AWARD AND VALUES AWARD WINNERS ARE: ★

YEAR 3	3C – Miss Clarke		3J – Miss Judge	
	Sophie M	Teddy	Keegan	Millie P
YEAR 4	4C – Miss Coventry		4BL – Mrs Loha & Miss Bradbury	
	Jack	Tyler	Scarlett	Sienna
YEAR 5	5C – Mr Cledwyn		5LA – Mrs Lawless & Mrs Albans	
	Molly	Jack	Benji	Florence
YEAR 6	6PS – Mrs Pearson-Dodd & Mrs Skippins		6M – Miss Moore	
	Joel	Millie	Jude M	Toby



KIND HEARTS AWARD



This week's Kind Hearts Award goes to Perri in Year 3, who has been nominated by her friends for being such a kind and lovely friend. Perri is someone who truly brings warmth to those around her—she is thoughtful, caring and always ready to include others.

Her friends spoke so positively about the way she makes them feel—valued, supported and happy—and that says everything about the type of person she is. Perri quietly demonstrates our school values of Respect, Ready and Safe through her everyday actions, and her kindness does not go unnoticed.

We are incredibly proud of Perri and the positive impact she has on those around her. Well done, Perri—you are a wonderful example of kindness in action. ❤️



LUNCHTIME AWARD



Each week, children and staff nominate a Lunchtime Award winner—someone who demonstrates our school values of Respect, Ready and Safe through excellent behaviour, kindness and positive conduct during lunchtime.

This week's award goes to Harriet in Year 5. Harriet has been recognised for being a fantastic role model to others. She consistently shows excellent manners, treats everyone with kindness and respect, and helps create a calm, positive atmosphere in both the dining hall and on the playground.

Her attitude and behaviour set a brilliant example for others to follow, and she represents the very best of our school values every day.

Well done, Harriet—we are very proud of you! ❤️

