



Eastern Green Junior School

Respect

We show kindness,
listen to others and
value everyone.

Ready

We are prepared,
give our best and
embrace new challenges.

Safe

We look after ourselves,
look after each other
and make good choices.



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a **busy and thoroughly enjoyable few weeks** at Eastern Green, and it really feels as though everyone is getting into the swing of the half term now. The children have settled brilliantly into their new classes and routines, and there is a lovely sense of purpose around school. It has been wonderful to see so much enthusiasm for learning and so many happy, engaged children.

Attendance



We are really pleased with our attendance so far this term. Despite the inevitable September bugs, coughs and colds, attendance across school has remained positive, so thank you for your continued support in getting children into school every day that they are well enough to attend.

At this early point in the academic year, it is worth remembering that **even just a few days of absence can have quite a significant impact on a child's overall attendance percentage**. For example, because we have only been back at school for a few weeks, a small number of missed days can make a percentage look much lower than families might expect.

Where this has happened, you may receive an **informal attendance letter** from us. Please don't be alarmed by this. These letters are simply part of the way we keep families informed about their child's attendance and give everyone an early opportunity to be aware of the figures. We know that children do become genuinely unwell, particularly at this time of year, and the purpose is to keep communication open and work together to support the best possible attendance throughout the year.

Year 5 Bikeability



Our Year 5 children have also been thoroughly enjoying their **Bikeability sessions** and have represented Eastern Green **beautifully**. Their behaviour, listening and attitude have been excellent, and we have been incredibly proud of them.

Bikeability is about much more than simply being able to ride a bike. The children are developing

their confidence and control, learning how to make safe decisions, becoming more aware of other road users and beginning to understand how to ride safely and responsibly on the road. These are incredibly valuable skills as children become older and increasingly independent.

Well done, Year 5 – keep up the fantastic work!

Class Charts

I have been **absolutely delighted** by the feedback we have received from parents and carers about Class Charts. It has been received with real positivity, and we are so pleased that families are enjoying having a greater insight into their child's school day.

We wanted Class Charts to make communication between home and school easier and, importantly, to give us another opportunity to share all of the positive things that happen every day at Eastern Green. It has been lovely hearing how much children enjoy going home and talking about the positive points, praise and recognition they have received.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up and embraced it so enthusiastically.



Star Assembly

Another change that has been particularly special this term has been welcoming parents and carers into our Star Assemblies.

Sharing the children's wonderful awards and achievements is always one of the highlights of our week, but being able to share those moments with families has made it even more special. Seeing how proud the children are when their family is there to watch them receive an award has been absolutely lovely.

Thank you to everyone who has joined us so far. We hope you have enjoyed celebrating with us as much as we have enjoyed having you there!



We Are Always Here

Finally, please remember that **the adults in school are always here if you need us**. Whether you have a question, a worry, need some advice or simply want to clarify something, please do get in touch.

We are only ever at the end of an email or telephone call, and if you contact us we will always endeavour to respond in a timely manner. Sometimes we may need a little time to speak to the right member of staff or gather the information we need before getting back to you, but we will always do our best to help.

Working closely with our families makes such a difference to our children, and we really value the positive relationships we have with our Eastern Green community.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are looking forward to another busy and enjoyable few weeks ahead!

Brown

Headteacher





Eastern Green Junior School

Dates for Your Diary Autumn Term (first half)



♥ We have lots happening over the next few weeks at Eastern Green!
Please make a note of the following important dates.

Monday 6th October

Year 6 Assessment Week begins

Year 6 will be completing assessments throughout the week. **Please ensure that your child attends school every day wherever possible.** These assessments help us understand where each child is currently working and allow us to put in place the right support ahead of SATs in May, so that every child can achieve the very best results.



This week

Year 4 Fire Service Visit & World Mental Health Day

Year 4 will have a visit from the Fire Service as part of their learning.

Friday 10th October is **World Mental Health Day**, and children across school will be talking about mental health and wellbeing within their PSHE lessons this week.



Wednesday 7th October

Year 5 Bikeability

Year 5 Bikeability sessions continue.



Friday 9th October Celebration Assembly

If your child is receiving an award, you will be invited into school to join us in celebrating their achievement.



Week Beginning Monday 12th October

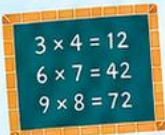
Monday 12th October

Year 4 MTC Parent Meeting

3.45pm

We will be holding a meeting for Year 4 parents and carers about the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). Please

do attend if your child is in Year 4, as we will explain what the check involves, how we are preparing children in school and how you can support at home.



Cakes for our cake sale

Donations needed from Monday 12th October

We are holding a cake sale on **Wednesday 14th October** to raise funds towards our mission to improve our playground at EGJS.

Please bring in donations of homemade or shop-bought cakes from **Monday 12th October** to be ready for the sale. There will also be a **cake-baking competition** – please see the details below for how to take part!



Wednesday 14th October

EGJS Cake Sale & Competition

Cake sale in school to raise funds towards our playground.

Cake-baking competition – see details below!



Thursday 15th October

Year 3 Harvest Festival Assembly

Year 3 will hold their annual Harvest Festival Assembly. Year 3 parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. We will also be collecting donations for our local foodbank, so please send in an item if you are able to contribute.



Friday 16th October Celebration Assembly

Parents and carers of children receiving an award will be invited to join us.



Week Beginning Monday 19th October

Monday 19th October Tag Rugby Festival

Children from all year groups will have the opportunity to represent EGJS at the Tag Rugby Festival at Broadstreet Rugby Club. Families will be contacted if their child has been selected to participate.



Tuesday 20th October

Year 3 & 4 Girls' Football Tournament



The tournament will take place at the AT7 Centre. You will be informed if your child is participating.



Wednesday 21st October

Year 5 & 6 Hockey Tournament



The tournament will take place at Bablake School. Families will be informed if your child is participating.

Wednesday 21st October Parents' Evening 3.30 – 7.15pm

An opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and discuss their progress and start to the year.



Thursday 22nd October Half-Term Star Assembly

We will finish the half term by celebrating some of the wonderful achievements of our children. Parents and carers of children receiving an award will be invited to attend.



Thursday 22nd October Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6.15pm



Friday 23rd October Teacher Training Day School is closed to pupils.





Our Annual Harvest Festival Assembly

Our Harvest Festival Assembly is a lovely annual tradition at Eastern Green and one that we always look forward to. Each year, our **Year 3 pupils** lead this special assembly, sharing what they have learned and helping us to celebrate together as a school community.

Harvest is traditionally a time to give thanks for the food that has been grown and gathered during the year. In school, it also gives us an important opportunity to think about **gratitude, kindness and helping others**, particularly those in our local community who may be experiencing difficult times.

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we ask families across the school to donate items for our **local foodbank**. Tinned and packet foods, cereals, pasta, rice and other non-perishable items are all gratefully received. Every donation, however small, helps us to build a fantastic collection to support local families.

Thursday 15th October

If your child is in **Year 3**, we would love you to join us in school at **9.10am** to enjoy the assembly and celebrate with the children.

We are always incredibly proud of the generosity shown by our Eastern Green families. Thank you for helping our children see our **school values** in action and understand the difference that kindness and generosity can make.

FOODBANK



EGJS Cake Sale

Wednesday 14th October

We have an exciting fundraising challenge ahead of us! We would love to make some fantastic improvements to our **school playground**, giving our children even more opportunities to play, explore, be active and enjoy their time outdoors. We have **quite a lot of fundraising to do** – and this is where we need the help of our wonderful Eastern Green families!

Cake donations

We will be holding an **EGJS Cake Sale** on **Wednesday 14th October** to raise money towards our playground improvements.

We would be incredibly grateful for donations of cakes – **homemade or shop-bought, big or small!**

Cakes can be brought into school from **Monday 12th October**, ready for the sale on Wednesday.

Don't forget!

Please also remember to send your child in with some **money** on **Wednesday** so that they can buy a cake and help us raise as much as possible for our playground!

Raising funds for our playground!

Cake-Baking Competition

This year's theme is...

"PLAYING OUTSIDE!"

We want you to get creative! Your cake could be inspired by **playgrounds, football, climbing, skipping, nature, outdoor adventures, games with friends** – or anything else that makes you think of **having fun outside**. The design is completely up to you, and we cannot wait to see what you come up with!

The winning baker will receive a **£20 book token!**

Our judging panel – **Ms Brown, Miss Colbourne and Mr Higginson** – will have the extremely difficult (but possibly rather enjoyable!) job of choosing the winning creation.

So, dust off those mixing bowls, **get creative, bring some money to spend at the cake sale**, and help us raise funds to make our playground an even better place for our children. **Ready, steady... BAKE!**



WhatsApp

A Message for Parents and Carers



Technology is changing quickly



The online world our children are growing up in is very different from even a few years ago. WhatsApp is now increasingly common amongst primary-aged children.

We are seeing the impact in school



Many of the friendship difficulties and disagreements we deal with in school have started, or have been made worse, through WhatsApp group chats outside school. A comment in the evening can quickly escalate and what happens online often arrives at the school gates the next morning.

WhatsApp is rated 13+



WhatsApp's standard minimum age in the UK is 13. This means our junior-aged children are below the age for independent use.

What can go wrong?

-  Children can be added to group chats, including with people they do not know.
-  A joke can be misunderstood and quickly escalate.
-  Photographs and videos can be circulated or screenshotted and shared.
-  Children can be deliberately excluded from groups.
-  There can be pressure to reply because others can see when they are online or have read a message.

Messages can always be shared



Even if a message or photo is sent as a "disappearing message", it can still be screenshotted or recorded and shared with other people.

Children may be confident with technology...



...but this does not necessarily mean they have the maturity to manage the complicated social situations it can create.

Please supervise closely

-  Know which groups your child is in and who they are communicating with.
-  Check privacy and group settings.
-  Talk regularly about what they are saying and what is being shared.
-  Remind them to tell an adult if something makes them feel uncomfortable or upset.

Let's work together



Please be vigilant, stay involved and talk regularly to your child about what they are doing online. The same expectations we have at Eastern Green – **Respect, Ready and Safe** – should apply online too.



Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

Parent Meeting



Monday 12th October – 3.45pm

★ Why are we meeting? ★

We would really encourage all Year 4 parents and carers to join us for a short meeting about the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) and why knowing times tables by heart is so important.

✖ What is the MTC? ✖

By the end of Year 4, children should be able to rapidly recall all multiplication tables up to 12×12 and the corresponding division facts. The MTC checks how securely and fluently children can do this.

💡 Why does rapid recall matter? 💡

If a child has to stop and work out a fact such as 7×8 , they are using valuable working memory. When times tables are automatic, their working memory is freed up to concentrate on the new and more complex maths they are learning.

★ By the end of Year 6... ★

Children will be using multiplication facts constantly when working on:

- Long multiplication and long division
- Fractions, decimals and percentages
- Factors, multiples and prime numbers
- Ratio and proportion
- Area, perimeter and volume
- Multi-step problems and reasoning

At the meeting we will explain:

-  What the MTC involves
-  How we prepare children in school
-  How you can help at home

Please do join us

Monday 12th October at 3.45pm.



Year 6 SATs Why They Matter




What are SATs?



In May, Year 6 pupils will take their Key Stage 2 SATs in reading, maths and grammar, punctuation and spelling. Writing is assessed by teachers.

More than just school results

There is sometimes a misconception that SATs are simply about judging primary schools. While results do contribute to national accountability, they are also important for your child.



Used by secondary schools

Results are passed on to secondary schools and they use this information to understand children's starting points and plan appropriately. KS2 results are also used nationally as the baseline for measuring progress towards GCSEs.



Why do they matter for your child?

SATs provide a clear picture of what your child has achieved by the end of primary school. The results follow them beyond primary school and help secondary schools plan teaching, support and expectations.



Next week – Assessment Week

Next week, Year 6 will complete their first assessments of the year. These help teachers identify what is secure, where there are gaps and what additional teaching or support each child may need as we work towards May.

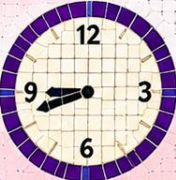


Please ensure attendance

Please make sure your Year 6 child is in school every day next week unless they are genuinely too unwell to attend.



Being in school on time really counts



Our doors open at **8.45am** and learning begins straight away. Morning work is an important part of the day, often revisiting key knowledge and skills. A child arriving at 8.45am can gain **nearly 15 minutes** more learning each day – and those minutes really add up across the year.

Our shared aim

We want every Year 6 pupil to leave Eastern Green having achieved the very best they can and feeling confident and ready for secondary school. Attendance, punctuality and making every minute of this important year count will help us to do that together.



Ready for the School Day!



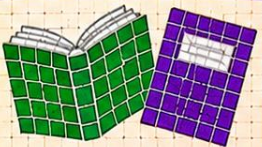

It makes a huge difference when children arrive at school ready and prepared for the day. Having everything they need means they can settle quickly, join in straight away and take responsibility for their own learning.

Pencil case



Please bring a pencil case every day with the items you need.

Reading book and reading record



Don't forget your reading book and your reading record every day.

Coat



Please bring a coat every day – we live in England and the weather doesn't always cooperate!

Water bottle



A water bottle helps children stay hydrated and ready to learn.

PE kit



Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school when needed.

No distracting items



Please do not bring toys, Pokémon or other swapping cards into school. These can be a distraction from learning and can lead to disagreements if items are swapped, lost, damaged or children change their minds about a trade. Keeping them at home avoids unnecessary upset.

Hair tied back



Where possible, please ensure long hair is tied back, particularly for practical activities and PE.

Please read our fortnightly newsletters!



They contain dates, events, reminders and important information about what is happening in school. We know family life is busy, but taking a few minutes to read them really does help everyone stay organised.

Celebrating Our Award Winners!

We are so proud of all of our children who have been recognised over the last two weeks. Congratulations to every one of our award winners!

Award / Class	Friday 25 th September	Friday 2 nd October
★ 3C Star of the Week	Isaque	Lydia
★ 3J Star of the Week	Cooper	Maria
★ 4C Star of the Week	Eddie	Aaron
★ 4LL Star of the Week	Edie	Jacob
★ 5G Star of the Week	Freya	Jack
★ 5LA Star of the Week	Ieuan	Macy
★ 6PS Star of the Week	William	Freddie RH
★ 6M Star of the Week	Finley	Maisie
♥ Kind Heart Award	Tyler – 5LA	Louie – 6PS
🍴 Lunchtime Award	Abigail – 6PS	Bobby – 3J
🏆 Values Champion	Yagavi – 6M	Poppy L – 6PS



Star of the Week

Celebrates a child from each class who has particularly impressed their teachers that week through their learning, effort, attitude or achievements.



Kind Heart Award

A special nomination recognising a child who has shown genuine kindness, thoughtfulness and care towards others.



Lunchtime Award

Celebrates children who demonstrate fantastic behaviour, lovely manners and a positive attitude at lunchtime – noticed and nominated by our lunchtime team.



Values Champion

Our most prestigious weekly award, recognising a child who truly lives and breathes our three Eastern Green values:

RESPECT ★ READY ★ SAFE