



EASEBOURNE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

20th July, 2016

DATES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Thursday 21 st July	Leavers' Assembly - Year 6 and family Leavers' Barbecue - Year 6 and immediate family	2.00pm 6.00pm
Friday 22 nd July	Last Day of Term	
Next Term		
Monday 5 th September	Inset Day (Staff Only)	
Tuesday 6 th September	Inset Day (Staff Only)	
Wednesday 7 th September	First Day of Term for Children	

A Word from the Head

Staff Announcements

- Sadly, we will be losing Francesca Wade-Palmer at the end of this term, who plans to spend more time on her writing. We wish her well and thank her for her contributions to the school over the year. In particular, we thank her for all the extra time that she put in to help make the Year 5/6 play such a success.
- Our SENDCo, Emma Austin-Diment, will take on the additional role of Assistant Headteacher in September, working alongside Malcolm Meaby as Deputy Head. Emma's hours will increase from two days to two and a half days.
- Molly Stringer will become the admin assistant to the office staff in September.
- Anne Nixon will work with Badgers on Thursdays, covering Malcolm Meaby's leadership time.
- Finally, we will welcome four teaching assistants, Carol Ann Smithers, Aliska Elliott, Stephanie Abbott and Nichaela Boxall, onto the staff to support children with specific needs.

Drop-off Arrangements

As parents will know, improving the school's security and the children's safety has been a key issue this year and a subject of much discussion with governors and parents. From September, the front doors will have an entry phone arrangement, as is the case with most schools. This will ensure that nobody can access the school building on the occasions when the front desk is unmanned.

With the buzzer system installed, it will now be possible to improve the drop-off procedure further. Parents and children will wait outside the main front entrance until **08:40** when the outer and inner front doors will be opened. Children (Y1-Y6) will then enter through the front of the school. Parents will be able to talk with the office staff at this point but will not be admitted into the school unless they have made an appointment or are volunteering and have collected a lanyard. Please note that children who attend a breakfast club will continue to be admitted earlier but will need to be buzzed in. On those days when it is raining and parents have arrived early with children, they may still go round the building and shelter under the canopy to be let in at the back of the library. Please note children are not the responsibility of the school until 08.40.

Change of Drop-off Time for Dragonflies

After much consultation with parents, we are changing the drop-off time for Dragonflies Class to come in line with the rest of the school, i.e. 08:40-08:50. Children will continue to use the same route to the back of the school but will now enter through the back of the classroom via the little side gate into their outside area.

Changes to Before-School Provision

Early Days have agreed to trial a new before-school provision which will hopefully be more flexible and convenient for parents.

The proposals are as follows:

- Before-school Club (nursery children) 08:00-09:00 £5.00 (incl. breakfast)
- Before-school Club (school children) 08:00-08:40 £3.50 (incl. breakfast)
- Before-school Club (nursery children) 08:40-09:00 £1.50

Please note that all children must be booked in at least a week in advance to allow Annie to arrange staffing for the sessions as she has to ensure that staffing ratios are adhered to for children under 8 years of age. Whilst requests at short notice may be accommodated, if staffing allows, this cannot be guaranteed. The current 24-hour notice for cancellation will be enforced if children are booked in and do not turn up on the day.

Leavers

This week we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. They have been a tremendous year group, stepping up to all the challenges that the year has thrown at them and taking on a wide range of responsibilities. They have also shown great care towards the younger children this year. They now go on to their new school to become the youngest students themselves and we wish them every success after a restful summer. I hope they will always feel they can drop in at Easebourne to catch up.



Academisation (from Tia Bedford, Chair of Governors)

Earlier this term, a question was raised during a Parent-Governor forum on where we stand with academisation. Given the uncertain climate around the formation of academies, we, as a board of Governors, are exploring the possibilities and are looking to speak with other schools that have recently converted in order to gain a greater understanding of the process and implications for the school. As Chair of Governors, I recently attended a Rother Valley meeting where the future direction of schools in the Rother Valley was discussed. The focus of this was on increased collaboration amongst the 15 schools in the area but not necessarily via academisation. No decisions have been made at this time and it is not one that we intend to rush. As our thoughts develop, we will keep parents informed.

House Challenge

Congratulations to Yellow House, and their captains, Charlie and Ethan, on winning the year's House Challenge Trophy. Though pushed hard by the other houses, Yellow always looked in control and they are worthy winners.

Library Borrowing

Parents will know that we have worked really hard to build up our reading stock in the library over the last two years, pursuing grants, getting support from the PTFA and using some of the school's own budget.

Unfortunately, this great work is being undermined by loss of and damage to books. 170 books have been marked as missing over the last two years and 25 books are currently overdue. We expect wear and tear and occasional books to go missing but this level of replacement compromises our ability to maintain the reading stock, let alone extend it, as we would like to do. We had hoped to buy exciting non-fiction to support the different class topics next year but it is not clear whether we will have the funds to do this.

What are we doing?

- We are committed to supporting the reading of the children at the school. To this end, we are increasing the number of books they can take out over the summer holiday from two to three.
- We will work with our librarians next year to ensure, right at the start of the year, that all children are fully confident with the system of borrowing and returning books.
- We will alert parents to the loss of a book and will let them know the cost of replacing it. We hope that, parents will offer to pay at least 50% of the cost of replacing the book. This will enable us to put the money spent replacing lost books into extending the range available.

What can you do?

- Please encourage your child to take the responsibility of borrowing a book seriously, looking after it and making sure it is returned to the library promptly, using the Junior Librarian scanning system.
- Please look round at home to see whether you have any of the school's library books.
- Please bear the school library in mind if you have any suitable books which are in good condition but which your family no longer wants.

Summer Reading Challenge

As most of you will know, each summer, the library service runs a wonderful scheme called the Summer Reading Challenge. This year, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Roald Dahl's birth, the theme is Roald Dahl's books. On Tuesday, Children's Librarian, Kate Pontin, came in to tell the children all about it and we hope that you will encourage your child to participate. It will form the very first house challenge of next year and every child's certificate will go up on display in the hall.

Summer Booklet

Following the success of last year's summer KIT Book spin-off, we are producing another one this year, linking in, as with the Summer Reading Challenge, with the theme of Roald Dahl. There are a number

of activities for your child to take part in over the summer, including a competition from the Parish Council.

Parent Evening and Parent View

I hope parents found the parent evening enjoyable and helpful. Parent feedback on the new report format has proved generally very positive and the comments on the new science and art rooms were also very encouraging. We are very lucky to have such a supportive PTFA.

Another positive from the evening was parental participation in Parent View. As explained in the last newsletter, the school is due an inspection from Ofsted in the near future. Part of the process is for the headteacher to notify parents about the inspection and invite them to complete Parent View.

Inspectors will then review the evidence from Parent View during the inspection and it will inform their overall judgement about the effectiveness of the school. The opportunity to use Parent View is always there; parents simply register with a password, verify their e-mail address and accept the terms of use. As the notice schools have of an inspection is minimal and many parents miss the opportunity to contribute their views, we have taken advantage of Ofsted's system of creating guest accounts to encourage parents to complete the survey. As a parent/carer, you have therefore been allocated a guest log-in and password.

Thank you to those parents who took the time to submit their opinions during the parent evening. If you haven't yet done so, filling in Parent View at your leisure over the summer will remove the pressure of logging on to Parent View during an autumn inspection. These details will be available in your children's summer booklet.

Parental Request for Second Copies

In the case of families where parents are separated or divorced it is the school policy to provide second copies of correspondence if requested. Please provide the school with an up to date email, address and telephone number and keep us informed of any changes to the information provided.

We will send:

- a newsletter fortnightly by email
- a diary termly by email. Dates can also be found on our website
- an invitation to parent evenings in the Autumn and Spring Term by email
- a report which will be posted at the end of the Summer Term

We will email or post any other important letters but will not send second copies of general letters regarding trips, swimming, Forest School etc.

Flu Vaccination in Schools Programme 2016/17

From October to December 2016, all children in Years 1, 2 and 3 in England will be offered a flu vaccination in the form of a nasal spray. Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust will once again administer the vaccination in West Sussex schools.

We have been allocated 23rd November 2016. A letter asking for parental consent will be sent out next term. Consents will be collected at least two weeks prior to the visit to ensure the team order enough vaccines. Please ensure that you return these letters promptly.

Medicines

If we hold medication for your child in school, please make sure you collect it from the front office on the last day of term. If the medication needs to be returned to us in September, could you please check that it is still in date, update the necessary paperwork for the new academic year and return it with the medication. Asthma pumps and spacers, that have been used, should be cleaned according to the manufacturer's instructions.

It would be really helpful if these items were returned before the start of the term, therefore you will be able to drop them in on the Inset Days or prior to this, when the office is open over the summer. We will send a text out over the summer informing you of these additional times.

Accessibility Plan

Our Accessibility Plan is available to view on our website under Key Information >Special Educational Needs and Disability.

Clubs

Thank you for returning your completed club forms. Club memberships will be displayed, during the first week of the Autumn term, in the office window facing the front entrance and in the windows facing the rear canopied area. Please note that cheques for paid clubs will not be banked until September.

Plea from Arts and Crafts Sewing Club – Please could we have donations of any material scraps, felt, buttons, ribbons etc. Many thanks.

Road Dahl Day

On September 13th we will be celebrating "Roald Dahl Day" to mark 100 years since his birth. We would like the children to dress up as their favourite Roald Dahl character in exchange for a £1.00 donation. We will also be selling raffle tickets in the foyer in the mornings during the first week of term. All proceeds from this will go to the Roald Dahl Charity. We will draw the Roald Dahl themed raffle during afternoon assembly on Monday 13th September.

Foxes and Otters Performance

On 5th and 6th July Otters and Foxes performed their end of year play 'A Midsummer Nights' Dream'. It was a play full of mischief, mayhem and a lot of comedy. It was one of the longest plays ever performed at Easebourne and we even had an interval with smashing fairy cakes and drinks. A big thank you to Larrie Robinson for the amazing costumes which made it look spectacular. Everyone who performed and watched loved it. It was amazing! By Samantha and Robyn, Otters Class



Badgers Camp Out

On 8th July Badgers Class had an exciting campout on the school field. We took part in lots of amazing activities including Capture the Flag, Ultimate Frisbee and football. Later we played games like Butterfingers, Chinese Whispers and Duck, Duck Goose, all of which proved to be side-splittingly hilarious! We had a yummy supper of hot dogs and burgers and ice lollies and lemon drizzle cake for pudding. We got changed into our pyjamas and went to a special secret hideaway for a story before bedtime. It was great fun. By Phoebe, Badgers Class



Visit by Enable Me

Enable Me is a disability awareness charity based in West Sussex. Representatives from the charity came into school on 7th July for the whole day. We learnt how different disabilities affected each person. We took part in lots of activities, the most fun was the wheelchair relay with Chris. We also played Boccia, a kind of boules, which was equally as fun. We also met a lady called Lizzie, who was in a wheelchair due to brittle bones, who is hoping to represent Great Britain in the Paralympics in Brazil. Enable Me Day was a really nice event to have at Easebourne and we now have a much better understanding of people who live with a disability. By Maisie, Otters Class and Nathan, Foxes Class.



Squirrels Class Go Pond Dipping

On Wednesday we went to South Pond. We went to do pond dipping, we found a frog, a boatman and some little fish. At the same time the rest of the group were finding leaves, sticks and nuts to make a picture. My picture was of the woods with berries on it, Ryan's picture was of a 3D woodland. The last group were spotting leaves on the trees, we found some holly. We also saw a heron on the pond and there were lots of geese and ducks. By Ryan and Margot, Squirrels Class



Sports' Day

We held our Sports' Day On Thursday 13th July. The sun shone, at last! We put on sun cream, hats and PE Kit before going up to the gazebos to get into our house teams. Parents were already waiting up on the field for us to start racing. Year 6 started off with a new event, Tug-of-War. We were a bit disappointed that we did not get the chance to take part, but as Year 6 are leaving it was a special treat for them and the only chance they would get to do it at Easebourne.

This was a really fun afternoon and we were all cheering on our teams, probably a bit too enthusiastically as by the end of the day our throats were hurting and we were really grateful when the ice-lollies were handed out. We were all very hot and had tried our best. Congratulations to Yellow House who were the overall winners followed by Red, Blue and Green Houses.

By Phoebe Smallwood and Kelcie Peacock Year 5

Rother Valley Rounders Tournament

On Friday 15th July a team of 10 from Easebourne went to compete in a Rother Valley Rounders Tournament at Harting. We played 4 challenging games during the competition and with each match we improved. However, we lost each game. We had some really fabulous players and all tried our best but we were playing against more experienced teams. We all really enjoyed ourselves and it's taking part that counts. By Chloe and Gwen, Otters Class

	Blue	Green	Red	Yellow
Total Last Term	78	83	77	101
Charity Term	10	2	7	5
Sumdog House Competition	4	1	4	2
Week 1 House Points	2	4	1	3
Week 2 House Points	3	4	2	1
Reading Challenge	3	2	1	4
Library Book Character Competition	4	8	6	2
Week 3 House Points	2	4	1	3
Week 4 House Points	1	4	2	4
Week 5 House Points	3	2	2	4
Week 6 House Points	4	2	1	3
Week 7 House Points	3	4	1	2
Week 8 House Points	4	3	2	1
Week 9 House Points	4	2	3	1
Week 10 House Points	3	3	1	4
Week 11 House Points	4	4	2	1
Week 12 House Points	3	2	4	3
Week 13 House Points	3	2	4	1
Sports Day	6	4	8	10
Total	144	140	129	155

EASEBOURNE PTFA NEWS

We hope you all enjoyed looking round the school at the open evening, aren't the science & art rooms amazing?! I thoroughly enjoyed exploring these new rooms with my children, my eldest daughter was so excited to show us what they can do. A big thank you to all the Teachers, TA's and Office Staff who helped refurbish these rooms. We are very lucky to have a primary school that has separate rooms for the children to learn Science, Art and Music; few primary schools have the space to enable them to do this. The PTFA funded the refurbishments and we are now able to fund the revamping of the music room too. Watch this space!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Clare Allen for all her hard work over the last few years organising the Summer Fair. Unfortunately Clare has now decided to step down from this roll and Sophie Granlund has kindly offered to take on this immense task. Additionally we must also say a big thank you to Sarah Naym for organising our popular Film Nights. Sadly Sarah is unable to carry on with this event due to work commitments but thankfully Sheila Cooper has offered to help out, so we are able to continue with this event on occasional Friday afternoons.

Finally a big thank you to all the Parents, Teachers, TA's, Mr Culley, Office Staff and all the other staff and volunteers who help run this school and raise money so that our children can benefit from having new minibuses, separate science, art & music rooms, extensive playground equipment, buddy benches etc.....

The PTFA have numerous, fantastic fundraising events lined up for the academic year 2016/2017 and we hope you will all help support us in anyway you can, there will be a list of events available from September.

Up and coming events in the Autumn Term so far, but subject to confirmation in September :-

- . PTFA Film Night (film to be confirmed)
- . Fairies & Scaries Friday 14th October 5.30-8.00pm
- . Table Top Sale end of September/early October
- . Happy School Bag Collection Thursday 13th October
- . Christmas Fair Friday 9th December

Our next PTFA meeting will be on Tuesday 13th September from 7.45pm, please come along, everyone is welcome, we would love to hear your ideas.

We hope you all enjoy your summer holidays and look forward to seeing you all in the Autumn Term from everyone on the PTFA Committee.



Early Days and Easebourne Owls Summer at Easebourne Owls Holiday Club

We will be running a holiday club on

Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th July
Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th August
Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th August
Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th August
Tuesday 23rd, Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th August

8.30am-4.30pm

£14.00 per am/pm session or £28 per child, per day.

Children aged from 2-10 years

Prior booking is essential to guarantee your child's place

Tel. 01730 815046

Email ect@easebourne.w-sussex.sch.uk

Bumble Bees Visit Alice Holt

Once again, Bumble Bees visited Alice Holt forest in search of the Stick Man! They followed the trail, making dens & adding to woodpiles along the way, until finally they found him....next to the Gruffalo! We had a great time & enjoyed the play park, picnic & ice-lolly. Thanks to Graham who drove us in the new minibus....which must have been cosy as a few of us had a little nap on the way home!



**Finally have a lovely Summer break and we will see you all on
Wednesday 7th September refreshed and ready for the new
academic year.**