Dear Parents and carers,

What a great half term it's been! Everyone has been working so hard and we are so proud of all that has been achieved, with so much more to look forward to.

There are some exciting events coming up, which you will find details of in the newsletter below. Also, there are some important updates to share with you regarding our Attendance Policy.

Just a reminder that school is closed for a professional day next Friday 25th October. Therefore, the last day before half term is next Thursday 24th October. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 4th November. Wishing you all a safe and happy half term break when it arrives!

Online Safety – being a parent/carer in the digital age

It can be daunting to feel you have no life experience to fall back on, because your child explores online spaces you could have never imagined at their age.

But the good news is you already have a lot of what you need to be a parent/carer in the digital world. You can afford to be confident.

Confident in your parenting skills and confident in your instincts. Because when it comes to your child and technology, it's still just that – parenting.

It's not always easy – but Parent Zone has tools and resources that can help.

Parent Zone is dedicated to helping families make the most of their online worlds.

They have a range of information and advice to help parent/carers support their children to be confident and capable online and to make the most of what technology has to offer – while being aware of the risks and harms they will also find online.



PZ Library

Browse their library of digital guides – including the most popular online platforms and games, and topics like screen time and age ratings.

Parent area

Explore their blog, advice and events to help you navigate the digital world and learn how to support your child in their online world.

Attendance Policy

Due to recent changes in legislation, there has been very important updates to our Attendance policy. We ask that all parents take the time to read this policy which can be found below

Attendance Policy 2024

Please pay particular attention to the following sections

- Lateness
- Term Time Leave Requests
- Penalty Notices
- Time off for illness-particularly the following:
 - o Children who are unable to attend school due to diarrhoea can return after they have been 48 hours clear. Children who are unable to attend school due to sickness can return once they are able to keep food down.
 - Children with mild coughs, colds, sore throats, sneezes and runny noses who are otherwise well can continue to attend school. However, if they develop a high temperature they should stay at home until their temperature has reduced and they are well enough to return to school. We expect children to attempt to come to school unless they are too unwell to complete basic tasks. We will contact you if they need to return home.

If you have any questions about our attendance policy, please contact Mrs Unwin in the school office.

October Half Term Camp at Eastfield (available for Years 1&2)

Primary Sports Stars will be running a multi sports activity camp during the October half term, here at Eastfield on Monday to Wednesday, 8.30am-3.30pm.

Please see the poster for all further information, including costs and booking link.



You can scan the QR to book, or go to https://www.primarysportsstarscambridge.co.uk/clubs-camps/

Cambridgeshire Half Term Voucher Scheme

Please find below some information from the Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the holiday voucher scheme

Parent Letter (CCC)

FAQ Parents - October Half Term Voucher Scheme CCC

Hemingford Fireworks Build a Guy Competition

Westfield School Association (WSA) are working with Fireworks in Hemingford, to run a "build a guy" competition.

For further details on how to enter this competition, please click here.

Family Fun at the Norris Museum this October Half Term



Heading for Hibernation Gallery Trail

From Saturday 26th October to Saturday 2nd November

Find all the images of animals hidden in the museum and discover which hibernate and which don't, complete the trail to earn some stickers – free!

Oakley the Owl Craft Packs

Create Oakley the owl using wooden slices, buttons, feathers and felt. The pack also contains glue and a spatula for assembly, as well as some paint and for adding further details! Just £4.50 per pack, or two for £8, available to buy whilst stocks last from the museum shop from Saturday 26th October.

Autumn Nature Mobiles: Family Workshops

Tuesday 29th October

2x Workshops - 10:30am to 12:00pm and 1:30pm to 3:00pm

Explore autumn nature in the museum garden and create your own mobile using a mix of natural and nature-inspired craft materials.

£15.00 for 2 at a table, £21.00 for 3 at a table, £26.00 for 4 at a table

Tickets numbers include adults - making their own creations!

(There must be at least one adult per table)

Aimed at children aged 5+

Limited places - online booking essential - https://the-norris-museum.arttickets.org.uk/

Hedgehugs: Family Story Time

Friday 1st November, 10:30am to 12:00pm

Listen to lovely Hedgehugs stories, written by Lucy Tapper and Steve Wilson. Make a clay hedgehog to take home and choose a sock for them to wear (once dry) from the washing line. Search for the hedgehogs hidden in socks around the museum.

£7.50 for 1 child, £14.00 for 2 children, £18.00 for 3 children

Aimed at children aged 3+ but everyone is welcome

At least one accompanying adult to every three children required

Limited places - online booking essential - https://the-norris-museum.arttickets.org.uk/

Open Evening *reminder*

On Tuesday 5th November (5 – 6:30pm) we will be holding our annual open evening event where we open our doors to show our community our excellent school.

This is a chance for you and your children to see the school and gain further insight around what the children are learning, how they learn and the resources that are available to them. It is also a wonderful opportunity to travel further afield within the school; from Nursery through to Year 2. There will be a "scavenger hunt" challenge that the children can take part in during the open evening event and every child that takes part will be entered into prize draw.

If you know of any other friends or family that may also wish to view the school (especially if they have children who will be due to start school next September), then please share this information with them.

Please <u>click here</u> to see our Open Evening poster.

ESA Sparkly Day and Sparkly Disco

Friday 8th November will be Sparkly Day at Eastfield. Children are welcome to come dressed in their sparkliest clothes in exchange for hamper donations for the Winter Wonderland. There are 3 hamper collections:

- Reception and Nursery Pampering items such as bubble bath, shower gel, face packs etc.
- Year 1 Non perishable food items such as biscuits, hot chocolate, crisps etc.
- Year 2 Children's activities such as colouring in, card games, fidgets etc.

Raffle tickets will then go on sale later in November and drawn at the Winter Wonderland in December.

Sparkly Disco (for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

Following on from Sparkly Day, the ESA will be hosting a Sparkly Disco on Friday 8th November, from 3:15-4:45pm. Tickets will need to be booked via school gateway and are £5 per child. Tickets are available now and include the disco, a snack, drink and a glow band.

Closing date for tickets will be Monday 4th November at 5pm.

ESA Welcome Quiz Night Winners

Thank you very much to everyone who was able to attend our Welcome Quiz Night. Congratulations to the winning team! We raised £257 in total, all of which will go directly back into funding more reading books, iPads and other needed resources and experiences for the children.



ESA fundraising events coming soon!

More details will follow soon, but here's a round-up of events and activities that the ESA will be running this term...

- Personalised Christmas card and gifts: further details emailed today
- Santa Letters: details to follow
- Christmas Jumper Swap stall: Friday 22nd November
- Christmas Jumper Day: Friday 6th December
- Winter Wonderland: Friday 6th December
- St Ives Community Choir Concert, in aid of the ESA/WSA: Saturday 7th
 December (details and links to purchase tickets will be published shortly)
- Carol Concert: Monday 16th December

Eastfield Wishlist

We can't thank families enough who have already donated generously through our school <u>Amazon wishlist</u>. As we have said before, there is absolutely no pressure or expectation from the school for people to donate through this way but if you feel that you are in a position to be able to do so, it really is hugely appreciated.

This term we have received the following donations:

- Chunky colour pens and pencils
- Writing pencils
- File holders
- Tea and Coffee
- Stickers
- Glue sticks
- Whiteboard pens
- Handwriting pens
- Pencil grips
- Beginner pencils



These are all incredibly helpful and means that it lessens the burden slightly on the overall school budget.

Important dates for your diaries

- Great Fire of London "Trunk Theatre" company performance for Year 2 Wednesday 23rd October
- Friday 25th October School Closed (Inset Training Day)
- October half term Monday 28th October Friday 1st November
- Monday 4th November All children back to school
- Tuesday 5th November Open Evening (5:00 6:30pm).
- Thursday 7th November Flu Vaccinations will be taking place in school. More information about this nearer the time.
- Friday 8th November Sparkly day (more information to follow)
- Friday 8th November ESA Sparkly Disco (more information to follow)
- Tuesday 12th November Otter Class Assembly (9 9:45am).
- Wednesday 13th November Raccoon Class Assembly (9 9:45am).
- Friday 15th November Children in Need
- Tuesday 19th November-Reception Vision Screening
- Tuesday 19th November Year 2 Phonic, Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Café (2:30pm).
- Wednesday 20th November Owl Class Assembly (9 9:45am).
- Thursday 21st November Hedgehog Class Assembly (9 9:45am).
- "Toys through History" educational visit to Norris Museum for Year 2. We will require parent/carer helpers for this visit and more information will be available soon.
 - Raccoon Class = Tuesday 26th November
 - Otter Class = Thursday 28th November

- Friday 6th December ESA Christmas Jumper Day.
- Friday 6th December ESA Winter Wonderland fundraising event (3:15pm).
- Saturday 7th December- St Ives Community Choir Concert
- Tuesday 10th December Nursery Nativity (2:30pm).
- Wednesday 11th December Reception Nativity (2:15pm).
- Thursday 12th December Reception Nativity (9:15am).
- Thursday 12th December Nursery Nativity (10:30am).
- Monday 16th December Carol Concert (5pm).
- Wednesday 18th December Christmas Dinner.
- Thursday 19th December Party Lunch
 Christmas Party afternoon
- Monday 23rd December to Friday 3rd January Christmas Holiday break.
- Monday 6th January 2025 Inset training day (school closed).
- Tuesday 7th January Start of Spring term.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Summerfield