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12<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## WEEKLY HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

The end of another busy week, some weird and wonderful May weather and amazing work produced. We are looking forward to further lifting of restrictions on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May but there is little change relating to primary schools this time. We are slowly starting to reintroduce visits and visitors and are so excited for our Year 6 pupils to take part in our first school trip next week. We will keep you updated of other year groups plans following this.

### Social Supermarket

A reminder that the Social Supermarket is open each day to all families. We ask that you please donate what you can afford and only take what you need. The Social Supermarket is based at The Family Centre and staff will be available to help you find what you need. It would help us prepare for visits if you call or email the school office to let us know if you are coming however, please do call in as required, but you may have a short wait.

### Half term and INSET days

The half term holidays will be here before you know it! The dates we are closed for half term are from Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June. Please note we then have two teacher training days (INSET days) on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June. School will be closed to children those days. We look forward to welcoming all children back to school on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June.

### Free School Meals and Food Hampers

We have been incredibly lucky to be able to provide food and support to all of our families throughout the pandemic. However, unlike all previous holidays over the last 12 months, we will not be providing any free school meal vouchers or food hampers for the forthcoming half term. If you are struggling, please contact the school office in confidence, and we will arrange to provide food from the Social Supermarket, fresh fruit and vegetables or meat products or signpost you to support in the community. Deadline for requests is Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May.

### Clubs

The last week for our brilliant extra-curricular clubs will be next week (17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May). There will be no clubs running until the week of Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021. There are a small number of places left in some of the clubs. Please go on to ParentPay to book any remaining places.

### Uniform

We have sent final warning letters to many families this week. If you are still struggling to provide what your child needs for school, please speak to us. We have incredibly high expectations for our children at Eastway and this includes uniform, we seek to remove any barriers to learning and focus on continuing to raise standards across the school and

appreciate your support with this. The following are NOT part of our school uniform-trainers, open-toe sandals, earrings, hoodies, tracksuit tops, jewellery, make up, nail varnish.

### **Tutoring**

A huge thank you to all our staff to giving up their time for extra tuition, we know that your children will all benefit from the extra support from adults in school who know them so well. If your child has been allocated tuition, please ensure that they attend all sessions to enable them to make the best progress.

### **Fidget Toys**

Please note that toys of any description should not be brought in to school. If your child is on the SEN register for social, emotional, mental health or struggles to regulate their emotions, it may be noted on their plan to have access to sensory or self-soothing resources. These will be provided by school. If you are not sure, please speak to your child's class teacher.



### **Behaviour**

It has been such a difficult and challenging year for us all. There has been so much uncertainty, change and disruption for our children. We are so incredibly proud of them and how well that they have coped during this time. For some children, the return to full time school, changes to routines and expectations has been incredibly unsettling. A small number of children are finding school very difficult at the moment and we are experiencing isolated incidents of dysregulated behaviours. We are so pleased with how loving, caring and accepting our children are of their friends who are struggling, they understand that they need support at the moment and respect the need to give them space if they need it. We continue as a school to focus heavily on a positive behaviour approach and offering tailored support plans for those who find it trickier to follow the school rules. On Monday, we will be launching a few new initiatives in school to focus on recognising and rewarding excellent work, attitude to learning and behaviour. We cannot wait to share this with you.

### **Sports Day**

It was hoped that we would be able to welcome families to our sports day events in school and we have been working hard to find a safe and easy way of managing this. Unfortunately, we are not able to do this with the current restrictions still in place. We are keeping our fingers crossed for early July and the possibly of holding a family event on the field. We understand that this will be disappointing for you all but I reassure you that we will do our best to get something exciting planned, when we are able to do so. Thank you for your understanding.

### **Staffing**

Mrs Brodie is still absent from school so Mrs Morris continues to oversee all SEN in school. We have had a couple of staffing changes to cover different roles and responsibilities. We are hoping to see more stability in staffing over the next year and when we have agreed class-teaching teams for September, we will let you know.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Morris.