



# EASTWAY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024



What a quick half term this has been. Lots of lovely learning taking place and our children have had some wonderful experiences in school over the last couple of months. Every class has had a visit or visitor this half term and we have had some great experience days in school, Quidditch was loved by all, assembly with Reverend Ron, snowy days, tournaments and clubs and some amazing days out next week too. We can't wait for more after half term! Thanks again for all your support of the school. Mrs Morris, Headteacher.

## World Book Day Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024

We LOVE reading at Eastway and are looking forward to the annual World Book Day celebrations after the half term holidays. Miss Shields and Mr Haughey have some great plans and we cannot wait to share these with you.

## Comic Relief - Red Nose Day Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March



We will be celebrating Red Nose Day on Friday 15th March. Children can wear red and we can do 'something funny for money!' a voluntary donation of 50p for wearing their own clothes will go straight to Comic Relief.

## Eastway Explorers and Nursery Closure - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

Due to Local Elections taking place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 Eastway Explorers and Nursery will not be open on this day as Wirral Borough Council will be using our school as a Polling Station. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.



## Colder Weather

As the weather gets colder, we are encouraging our children to dress appropriately for outdoor play. They must have a coat and cardigan/ jumper in school every day. If you do not have any items, we have loads to give you for FREE! We have been donated lots of uniform, coats and shoes. Pop into the Family Centre to pick up what you need. Just as you are experiencing at home, we have been hit hard by the rising costs of energy. We have

committed to ensure that our school remains warm and comfortable for our children as we know the importance of children being in an environment that promotes happiness and good conditions for learning. This cost of heating our school is phenomenal again this year but something that we have budgeted for. We also have windows open to ensure fresh air and good circulation to stop bugs from spreading at this time of year, so make sure your child has layers on if they feel the cold.

## Easter Holiday Club

We have applied for funding again to run our activity club over the holidays at Easter and provide food for our families. We should know if we have been successful by next Wednesday and will write with more information and a booking form. We hope to run paid for childcare sessions and some free activity sessions in the two week of the holidays.



## Clubs

We hope that your children enjoyed the clubs that have been put on for them already this year. As next half term is a short one and we have our parents evening and catch up groups planned in, we will not be running anymore after school clubs now until June. We will still have some after school tuition groups and some invitation only groups running and teachers will send letters to those involved. Many thanks to all the staff who have given up their time to run these clubs for our children, it is really appreciated.

### **Attendance & Punctuality**

Lots of nasty winter bugs going around at the minute and some poorly children. We know this is unavoidable but if your child is just a little under the weather, send them in and we can administer medicine and keep a check on them in school, many children perk up and love to be in with their friends. Mr Haughey continues to oversee all attendance and is closely monitoring absences. We aim to keep you updated about your child's current attendance and the support available to promote good school routines and our high expectations. We pride ourselves on our amazing relationships with our families, so let's continue to work together to make sure our children are in every day, on time and reaching their full potential. We will call home every day, even if you have left a message on the answerphone.

**NEW Booking for Wraparound-** Early Risers (Toast Club) and Swashbucklers After School Club  
New Booking System With effect from Monday 26th February 2024 is being introduced for Early Risers (Toast Club) and Swashbucklers After School Club. The booking system is being implemented so we can check the amount of children that are attending each day to ensure that we have the correct staff to child ratios and that we have catered for enough children. How do I book a place for my child? To book a place for your child in Early Risers or Swashbucklers After School Club you will need to login to your child's ParentPay Account and book a place. You can book in advance, weekly or daily. How do I pay for my child's place? You will need to pay when you book a place for your child. Please note that all arrears on your child's Early Risers and Swashbucklers After School Club Account must be cleared by Sunday 25th February in order for your child to attend. If you use childcare vouchers to pay for wrap around care please contact the school office in advance to book a place for your child. If you have any queries or questions please contact the school office on 0151 677 1235.

### **Valentines Cake Sale & World Book Day Costume Swap**

Feel the love after school next Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February and buy a tasty treat on our key stage one playground after school or pick up a costume for World Book Day. If you have any costumes from previous years, please drop them into the Family Centre.

### **Mid-Year Reports**

Class teachers are busy writing your child's Mid-Year Report. This will provide you with a quick view of how your child is doing, how they are working towards their end of year targets and how we are supporting in school. We will be having an open evening for you to pop in and see your child's work and speak with the class teacher. Mrs Harrison, SENCo and Mrs Dennett, Family Support will also be available in the school hall if you need any advice or guidance.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Local Offer (SENDLO)

SENDLO (Wirral's SEND Local Offer) website (<https://www.sendlowirral.co.uk/>) provides information on the services children, young people and their families can expect from a range of local agencies, including education, health and social care as well as information about other local support services. Knowing what is out there gives you more choice and therefore more control over what support is right for you and your child. The SEND Local Offer helps you find out what services are available in Wirral for children and young people aged 0-25 with special educational needs and disabilities. Our new and improved SENDLO launched in September 2023. To develop the website, a project team has had input from SEND children and young people, parents, carers, third sector organisations, professionals in Early Years, Commissioning, Health, Education and Care.

The new web site has had really positive feedback and benefits from enhanced accessibility tools including:

- Audio text reading
- The use of Images i.e. Widget symbols, video.
- Background exchange (colour change)
- Translation availability

Contact: E mail: [sendlo@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:sendlo@wirral.gov.uk)



If you would like any advice and guidance on SEND, please take a look or speak to Mrs Harrison, SENCo.



## **Children's Mental Health Week 2024**

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 5-11 February 2024. The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'.

**My Voice Matters** is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health.

This year, we want to empower children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing. Our aim is for Children's Mental Health Week, we want all children and young people to be able to say - and believe - "My Voice Matters." Below is a list of links for further information but if you ever need to talk, we are always available.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/mental-health-support/supporting-a-child-or-young-person>

CAMHS - Requesting help from CAMHS: Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (mymind.org.uk)

CAMHS crisis line- 0800 145 6485

Young minds -What to Do if You Find Christmas Difficult | Blog | YoungMinds

Kooth.com - Kooth provides free, safe and anonymous mental health and wellbeing service, providing online counselling and support for children and young people aged 10 to 25 Home - Kooth

Papyrus Papyrus UK Suicide Prevention | Prevention of Young Suicide (papyrus-uk.org)

Samaritans Samaritans | Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy | Here to listen

'Stay Alive' app which has resources for those in a mental health crisis:

<https://www.stayalive.app/>

Crisis support for children and young people in Cheshire and Wirral

(mymind.org.uk)

## **LAUNCH OF THE 'MY CHILD AT SCHOOL' PORTAL**

We have now launched the MyChildAtSchool [MCAS] portal enabling you to view your child's Attendance and other information in real-time via a web browser and App. This will replace the e-Schools app that is currently used to send messages and letters. To login to the MCAS Parent Portal you will need to have a valid e-mail address registered with the school. An email will be sent to all parents/carers who are listed as being a Priority 1 or 2 contact and who are legally entitled to see this information. This email will provide the details of how to securely log in and set a password and security information. Please email the school office if you need to update your email address or make any changes to the Priority 1 or 2 contacts for your child. Web Browser App A link to an introductory video providing a step by step guide to logging in and using your account is provided here. Additional guidance documents are available at: <https://docs.bromcom.com/articlecategories/for-parents/>

## **Things from Home**

We know that some children need additional support and we make reasonable adaptations for all children as and when they need them. However, we must ensure that our school is a calm, orderly and germ free environment. Lots of items are coming into school and being lost, misplaced and shared with other children. This is a concern for many reasons. If your child needs anything for transition into school, to reduce anxiety or to help them focus, this must be approved by the headteacher and part of your child's SEND Plan. All stationery is provided by school and children do not need to bring anything in. We have also noted that lots of children are bringing in a wide range of bottles and many contain juice, these are a huge distraction in class and also not acceptable as a healthy school. Water only is provided during the day in school. All children have milk/milkshake at breaktime and juice at lunch. If your child has a medical condition and needs to drink something other than water, Mrs Harrison should have this information on a Health Care Plan and it must be approved by the Headteacher. Thank you for your support with this.

Upcoming Events & dates for your diary 2023- 2024		
SPRING TERM 1 2024	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Valentine Cakes & World Book Day Costume Sale
	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Last day in school 3:15 finish
	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	February Half Term
	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Children to return
SPRING TERM 2 2024	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Open Evening 3pm-6pm Mid-Year Reports given out
	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	World Book Day
	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Comic Relief
	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Year 3/4 Easter Church Service, Last day in school Easter Egg Tombola after school
	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March - Friday 12 April	Easter Holidays
	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Children return to school
SUMMER TERM 1 2024	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Polling Day- Explorers & Nursery closed
	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	SCHOOL CLOSED MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY
	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 End of Key Stage Two SATs
	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	SPORTS DAY, End of half term
	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> & Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET Days- school closed for all
	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June- 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Table Check Tests
SUMMER TERM 2 2024	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June- 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Tests
	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	School Photos- Classes
	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer BBQ
	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	End of Year Disco & Year 6 Prom
	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	School Closes 1.30pm for Summer Holidays

*Please keep the below dates for the year and we will update on our next Monthly Newsletter so that you have events and diary dates well in advance. If you are unsure of any dates, they are all available on the calendar section of our school website. We also post regular updates on Twitter and Facebook so please make sure you follow us for more and ensure we have your correct email and mobile number to get all communication from school.*

