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## Weekly News

Dear Parents/ Carers,

A cold and miserable week outside but a super productive and positive week in Eastway Primary School!

### Parent Class Representatives

Thank you so much to our amazing class representatives, we had a fantastic meeting yesterday and it was really useful to get feedback on things that are going well in school and ideas on how parents think we can further improve. We will put the notes from the meeting on the website and will send a separate letter next week with your rep's contact details on.

### HYPE, OWLs & The School Field

The first session for parents started this Tuesday and we would like to thank the group for getting this project up and running. The Grow Group will meet every Tuesday morning and have access to a free 5 week programme starting on the 30<sup>th</sup> January- if you are interested, please let us know.



The field is in desperate need of a major makeover so that we can start using it effectively. Before we are able to do this we need to sort out the drainage problem that we currently have. We are incredibly grateful to Magenta Living for their Community Grant of £1000 and for the support of HYPE and their groundwork and gardening team. However, to enable this project to keep going and benefit us all in the future, we will need the whole school and community to pull together. We will be planning a Big Family Dig Day when the weather gets slightly more bearable - we will provide bacon butties in return for your

help in digging over the field. More details will follow. Miss Gouldson will be leading a team of children, called OWLs (Operation We Love our Space) and they will be thinking of ways we can use the field and fundraise for the different projects - they will be writing to parents soon.

### Toast Club

We will be running the Toast Club every morning from **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January**. It will be a drop in session from 8.15am every morning, there is no need to book. Access will be from the gate on Oundle Road and through the Feastway Canteen door. Eastway staff will meet you at the door and you will need to sign your child in and pay on the day- 50p day for the first child - if you have more than one child, the cost will 10p each for the extra children. If you would like to pay in advance, please see the staff in toast club. If you are struggling financially please speak to us as we may be able to support you in making use of this service and ensuring that your children receive breakfast before school. Children will be able to have their breakfast with their friends, catch up on homework and play games before being taken down to their classrooms **Please note when this starts toast at morning playtime will be stopping** Children

will be able to bring in a piece of fruit for morning break in Key Stage Two and if they have milk, they will still receive this during morning playtime.

### **Clubs**

We thank you for your feedback to our parent class reps, and we recognise that the organisation of the clubs has been challenging at times and some parents have been frustrated. But the benefit of the large range of clubs that the children now have access to is something that we must celebrate. We have learnt from the process this time and are confident that the booking system and communication will be better for the summer term.

### **Successful Reading Partnership- Training for Parents**

We recognise the importance of daily reading for children to be successful. Many of our children are not reading regularly at home and this is having an impact on their learning in school. Having to provide 1 to 1 reading opportunities for all our children in school is putting added pressure on our staff and the tight timetable. We are looking at starting a training programme for parents so that they can volunteer in school to promote reading, provide additional support and help children with their reading strategies. If you are interested, please leave your details in the school office and we will contact you in the next two weeks. In the meantime, if you have any time to spare and would like to come in to school to read with children, please speak to your child's class teacher.

### **Internet Safety**

As part of our Thoughtfulness Value for this half term, we will be considering how children can keep themselves safe and well. Next week we will be focusing on Healthy and Active Lifestyles and making good choices around snacks and exercise. The week after we will be looking at Keeping Safe on the Internet. We will put some up to date information on our school website for you to share with your children at home.

### **Little Black Marks...**

I understand as a mother of two very messy children how frustrating it is when they come home with the black marks from the school whiteboard pens on their pristine uniforms. We have looked in to a range of different suppliers and tried a wide selection of dry wipe pens, even the guaranteed washable ones! Unfortunately they all leave stains, class teachers do remind child to take care when using the pens but accidents do happen. Our Parent Class Reps all have handy hints on how to remove stains and we believe that hairspray works wonders, any tips are greatly received.

### **Milk**

We have heard that some children have not been receiving milk who have paid for it. If your child is not getting their milk in school and you have paid for it, please speak to the school office and they will check the class list is updated. To ensure that your children are on the class list for milk, please pay in the week before the end of each half term as the milk lists are printed of for each class on the first Monday back.

### **Upcoming Dates**

Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January		Year 2 Trip Bidston & Farm	
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January		Year 4 Trip Chester Zoo	
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February		Year 6 Trip Stockport AirRaid Shelters	
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February		End of half term	
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February		School reopens after half term break	
1 <sup>st</sup> March		World Book Day	
23 <sup>rd</sup> March		Sports Relief	
29 <sup>th</sup> March		Easter Service	