

Newsletter – November 2022

Welcome Back

We hope you have all had a wonderful break, spending time with family and friends. We are very pleased to welcome you back to school for what is going to be a jam-packed half term! We have many exciting events planned this half term for our children and yourselves as well! Please check our Class Dojo app and text message service regularly for updates of upcoming events and family learning opportunities.

Key Dates for Your Diary

Week Commencing **31st October** - Diwali celebrations in school

Wednesday 9th November - Parents Evening – all classes on this day apart from the classes below

Thursday 10th November - Parents Evening — F2R, F2GA & 1/2MM

Friday 11th November - Remembrance Day

Monday 14th November - Spotlight Day & Odd Socks Day

Monday 14th - Friday 18th November - Friendship Week

Friday 18th November - Children in Need

Monday 21st November – Y3/4 Family Learning Workshop (more information to follow)

Thursday 24th November - Winter Craft Workshop - (more information to follow)

Thursday 1st December Christmas Movie Night - (more information to follow)

Tuesday 6th December - Breakfast with Santa (more information to follow)

Wednesday 7th December – Christingle at St James' Church

Thursday 8th December - Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas Disco

Monday 12th December KS2 Christmas Performance morning

Monday 12th December - Whole School Pantomime

Tuesday 13th December KS1 Christmas Performance morning

Wednesday 14th December - EYFS Christmas Performance morning

Wednesday 14th December – Christmas Fair afternoon

Snacks

Can we please remind you that if you send your child in to school with a snack to eat, please ensure that these are healthy options such as a piece of fruit or a healthy cereal bar.

School Parent Governor

We currently have a position for a Parent School Governor. If you are interested, please contact the school office on 01709 512202 in the first instance.

Attendance matters at East Dene Primary School

Our school attendance target is 96%
Whole School Attendance Autumn 1 is: 93.8%
Best Year Group: Year 3 with 94.9%
Best Class: Mrs Spafford 5/6S 95.2%

At East Dene Primary School we believe that regular and punctual attendance at school, are key elements in promoting children's learning and attainment. Only by regular attendance can children access the quality education that is offered at our school.



If your child is not well enough to attend school, we expect a parent to contact the school office as soon as possible giving a specific reason for the absence.

Because we have a duty of care for safeguarding your child, we will contact you if we do not receive a call on a daily basis to ensure we know your child is safe.

Uniform

We encourage our children to take pride in everything they do, including their appearance which is why we have a school uniform. We ask parents and carers to support us in implementing this dress code.

Our uniform comprises of, a royal blue jumper/cardigan, a white polo-shirt, black trousers or a skirt or a pinafore dress. In summer, children can wear black shorts or a blue striped or checked summer dress. If anyone is struggling to purchase school uniform contact either the school office on 01709 512202 or speak directly to your child's class teacher.

Please ensure that all items of clothing, including coats and shoes, are labelled with your child's name, which will then help us to identify and return any lost items of clothing to the right children.

For PE activities, we ask that children wear black shorts and a white t-shirt. Although indoor PE is performed in bare feet, pumps are worn for outdoor PE. If your child has long hair please ensure that they have a bobble to tie it back.

Learning Mats

Please don't forget to look at our school website (www.eastdene.org) to view your child's learning mat for this half term. The learning mats set out the key learning for each half term, detailing what will be covered in different subject areas. If you would like any further information about your child's learning, then please speak to your child's class teacher who will be more than happy to give any additional information needed.

Reading, Reading and more Reading!

Reading for pleasure continues to be a very important part of school life and during the first Autumn Term we were very busy developing our reading environments including our library and our outside Secret Reading House! We are proud to have our Reading Wizards in post who are sharing their passion for reading with our younger children.

Within school we are also continuing to use our RED initiative (Read Every Day) to encourage our children to read regularly at home, with weekly rewards given to the class with the greatest number of children who have read at home.

The Open University has published some useful information relating to how parents/carers can support readers at home. Please see the information below:

Supporting Readers at Home

Open University research suggests there are three important ways to support readers and a love of reading.

Read Aloud
Reading aloud to your children shows them reading is a pleasure, not a chore. Older children can read to younger ones too.

Family Reading Time
Making time to read alongside one another helps develop children's reading stamina and interest. Let them choose what to read and relax together.

Book Chat
Book Chats encourage readers. Invite them to make connections and share their views. Join in with your thoughts too!

Children who read, and are supported as readers, develop strong reading skills and do better at school.

I wonder if...why... what...who...

For more ideas see the OU website: www.ourfp.org

Get in Touch

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your child whilst at our school then please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. You can do this via the Class Dojo app or through speaking to your child's class teacher or by phoning the school office on 01709 512202. Please note that school staff do not always have access to the Class Dojo app after school hours and therefore will not always be able to return your message until the following school day. If you need to speak to someone urgently it is always best to contact the school office on 01709 512202 and speak to a member of staff. If someone else is picking up your child please make sure you do not leave a message, speak to a member of staff as we may not hear the message in time.

Thank you for your continued support.