



### **Dear parents,**

Welcome back. I hope you have had super family time together in the holiday. I've spoken to many of the children and it sounds like they have had many fun adventures here and abroad. When asked their highlights I heard about: rescuing a toddler in a pool, having a very wet week in Wales and a parent setting fire to a napkin in a restaurant! Congratulations to our wonderful Mrs Lester who was married in the holidays too, we're all trying hard to call her by her new name, Mrs Birch.

We're all looking forward to teaching your children and the teachers have been working hard to prepare for another positive year.

### **Reception Children**

What a wonderful start to school. The new Reception pupils are settling well under the guidance of Mrs Parsons, Mrs Curran, Mrs Williams and Mrs Toms. Thank you for making the transition to school smooth by arriving on time and offering positive words when needed. Parting in the morning might be difficult (for you or your child) but children start smiling when they become engaged with their learning activities. Be reassured we will always contact you if we have a concern. Eastington has a strong and committed staff team and I know we will work together to ensure the best outcomes for your child.

### **Welcome to the Team**

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Sarah Mason as Class 2 teacher (part time) for our school. Mrs Mason is an experienced teacher who has a positive track record of working with pupils in Reception and KS1. If you are a parent of Class 2 children then please say hello and introduce yourself.

### **Nuts Allergies**

We have pupils on site who have an allergic reaction to nuts. Can we ask you to be aware and not to send nuts (peanut butter, cereal bars with nuts etc) into school as part of your child's lunch/snacks. Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

### **Mathematics Information Evening**

As a school we had a strong focus on further developing the mathematics skills of our pupils last year with a positive impact. The use of 'Mathletics' at school and home has been overwhelmingly positive, with every pupil having an individual login. We thank our wonderful PA for supporting the funding of it again this year.

We would like to share how we are developing rapid recall of number facts in maths with your children, an important core skill, during a Mathematics Evening on **Tuesday 17th October**—a date for your diary!

### **Parent Association**

The AGM/first meeting of the Parent Association will be on **Wednesday September 13th at 7pm** in the school hall. The PA is a friendly team who work together to fund raise and offer opportunities for the school community to have fun together. We are looking for people with a range of skills. Whether you have a lot or a little time to give, please come and support our school. It makes a real difference.

### **Musical Tuition**

A reminder that music tuition will commence **Monday the 18th September** for Guitar with Mr Watson. Information to follow regarding Mrs Stephens-Hudd's first session.

### **School Start Time**

We have had a positive start to term, with no late arrivals as I write this. It is very important that children are on site **by 8.50am**, which is when our school day starts. When children are late for school they can often feel embarrassed entering the class, have missed the outline of the day given by their teachers which can disorientate them and even miss the start of a lesson which is a disadvantage to them. The Governors and I will be monitoring this. We want every child to start the day in the best way.

## Important secondary transfer information (YEAR 6 pupils)

A reminder that applications (Common Application Form) for secondary education, whether made electronically or on paper, must be made no later than the closing date of **31st October 2017**. Further advice and support with this process is available from the Admissions and Transfer Team based at Shire Hall, Glos. (website: <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions>).

## Book Week 2017...read on!

We are once again holding a BOOK FAIR, the week commencing **Monday 2nd October**. There will be the opportunity to view/purchase good quality books for all ages. The book 'shelves' will be open to everyone before and after school starting on **Tues 3rd October** from 8.30am and again at 3.15pm in the hall. There will be additional time during parents consultation evenings for a further browse!

## Naming of children's belongings

A request from all staff: please name water bottle and jumpers clearly with your child's name. We don't want to lose learning time after break & lunchtimes reallocating belongings. Items with names on always return to the owner which will also save many. Many thanks for your help in this.

## Dates for your diary

We have listed below some of the key dates for your diary. Out of our recent parent survey you said you would like more advance notice of events. We will endeavour to do that this year. In addition we have included the focus of our assemblies (2 weeks of exploration) so you can think about these values with your children—sometimes I will be asking them to talk to you and report back so be prepared!

### Term 1

#### September

- Mon 4th - INSET (staff only)
- Tues 5th - Children start
- Value for learning and life: Resilience
- Fri 8th - French sessions begin with Mrs Lagoueyte for Key Stage 2
- Fri 8th - Digital art session with Mr Dougan begin for Key Stage 2
- Fri 8th - 'Sports Leadership', 'Learning through Sport' and multi-skill sessions begin with Mr Boon
- Wed 13th - Parents Association AGM/first meeting with refreshments (7.00pm school hall—all welcome)
- Mon 18th - Clubs for pupils commence
- Mon 18th - Value for learning and life: Friendship
- Wed 20th - Phonics information eve. For parents of pupils in Rec, Y1 and Y2. (6pm)
- Fri 22nd - Class 3 writing for next edition of Eastington News
- Mon 25th - Bikability for Y6 (Further information to follow)
- Reception pupils commence fulltime
- Fri 29th - Class 4 Assembly (10.00am school hall - parents welcome)

#### October

- Mon 2nd - Value for learning and life: Tolerance and Empathy
- Book week commences in the hall
- Tues 3rd - Parents consultation evenings - share expectations and pupil targets
- Thurs 5th - Parents consultation evenings - share expectations and pupil targets
- Thurs 12th - Flu immunisation for Rec-Y4 pupils (more information to follow)
- Mon 16th - Value for learning and life: Thankfulness
- Tues 17th - Maths Parent Information Evening 5.45pm
- Wed 18th - Harvest Celebration led by C5 (2.00pm St Michael and All Angels church - parents welcome)
- Thurs 19th - **Final day of Autumn Term 1 for pupils**
- Fri 20th - INSET DAY (For staff)

#### Term Break

- **Friday 20th Oct - Sun 29th Oct (inclusive) .....**

### Term 2

#### October

- Mon 30th - First day of Autumn Term 2 for pupils

#### November

- Mon 6th - Value for learning and life: Honesty and truth
- Fri 10th - School photographs (individuals and families - school hall)
- Fri 17th - Class 2 Assembly (10.00am school hall - parents welcome)
- Class 4 writing for next edition of Eastington News
- Mon 20th - Value for learning and life: Respect
- Wed 22nd - Life Education Bus: supporting positive physical & mental health and relationships
- Thurs 23rd - Life Education Bus: supporting positive physical & mental health and relationships
- Fri 24th - Class 3 Assembly (10.00am school hall - parents welcome)

#### December

- Mon 4th - Value for learning and life: Kindness
- Thurs 7th - KS1 Christmas Nativity: 2pm/6pm
- Wed 13th - KS2 Christmas Performance 6.30pm
- Thurs 14th - KS2 Christmas Performance 1.45pm/6.30pm



We have a fantastic school because we work together for the good of children. Thank you for your continued commitment and support. **Zoe Avastu**

*Aiming high.....together*