



## Dear Parents

The happy industry continues at school as we enjoy the 'summer sun' at what is a very busy time in the academic calendar.

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who supported the Summer Event last weekend. Whilst the weather proved a little inclement, it did not dampen the afternoon activities which reflected a real community spirit. Thank you to Karen Hayes and Emma Owen and all the PA team who worked tirelessly to ensure the event was a success. A special thanks to all who donated items, sponsored the duck races or simply gave their time. All monies raised will support the purchase of new IT resources, including 25 high spec laptops and a set of learning tablets to further enhance how pupils use technology across the whole curriculum. It has been a super year for the Parents Association with well supported major events including the Christmas Bazaar, Quiz Night and the Easter celebrations. The monthly Cake sales and refreshments have also proved a success. It all begins again in September, so please continue to be involved in any way can....it really does make a difference. Thank you.

## Above and beyond

Pupils in Year 6 returned from their residential Adventure Week at Ross-on Wye, having, climbed, canoed, abseiled, fenced, raft built and lots more fun activities that challenged and engaged them during a super week away.

## Making music

We were fortunate to secure the talents of David Ayre and his fellow professional musicians who led workshops with every Class. Using the current curriculum focus for their specific Year group, the children worked together to create, compose and perform a representative piece of music that captured the essence of that topic. 'Extreme environments' for example, provided the ideal mix of instruments and language that conjured up the sounds of the desert and the loneliness of a barren mountain. Backed by the professional musicians, using simple percussion instruments and their voices, the results were truly inspiring.

This forthcoming **Friday (3rd July)** some of the older children are performing in the school **Musical Celebration** evening. This always proves hugely enjoyable as we marvel at the wonderful talents of our young musicians.

## Class photographs 2015

Please return orders and monies for Class photographs by 9am on Friday 3rd July to receive the prints before the end of term. Slightly enlarged prints for all classes are on view in the front entrance. Thank you.

## A top 3 finish!

Well done to our athletes who competed in the Stroud and District Area Championships. Our jumpers, throwers and sprinters gave their all with some outstanding performances finishing 3rd in the overall rankings within the Stroud area. A fantastic achievement with everyone playing their part including mums, dads and grandparents who cheered enthusiastically every athlete in the Eastington red and white. Brilliant!

## You only get out what you put in!

This is certainly true of many things including gardening. The Bill Fletcher Gardening Award for 2015 has been won by Class 4. Mr Fletcher cast a critical eye over the Class gardens and praised the children's efforts. A special thank you to Mr Fletcher who continues to support many village events to encourage everyone to 'grow their own'!

## The count has ended

Thank you again for all the Sainsbury's shopping vouchers. With the count completed an order has been placed for more sports equipment as part of the 'Active Kids' initiative....thanks to you.

*(continued overleaf)*

### **We're off to London**

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 are taking the train to London to see their buddies at Charles Dickens Primary in Southwark on Tues 7th July. On arrival at Paddington they will travel on the underground to the Elephant and Castle station and following a short walk spend a whole day with their friends. Apart from the obvious experience of using public transport, it strengthens our links with a school in a very different environment and broadens the children's understanding of life beyond Eastington.

### **Staying safe on the road...**

Year 6 pupils will embark on the 'Bikeability' course the week commencing Monday 6th July. There will be more cycles in and around school on specific days.

### **...and staying safe in the sunshine**

Whilst we are enjoying this current spell of fine weather, we are all too aware of the harm prolonged periods in sunlight can have on children. I have reminded everyone about seeking shade and remaining hydrated. Children have been advised to wear hats/caps that protect their eyes and necks. Whilst it is not our policy to apply protective cream to individual children, by all means apply this at home prior to the start of the school day. We can then all enjoy being 'out and about' ...safely. Thank you.

### **Your help is required.....please**

Sports Day (Monday 13th July at 1.30pm) will soon be here. The event relies upon your support to make it an active and fun afternoon for everyone. A 'helpers board' will soon be posted at the front of the school.....  
.....please sign up, no experience needed just helping hands and a smile!

### **Extra curricular clubs**

Whilst some after school clubs have already concluded, a reminder that all extra curriculum activities will cease on Friday 10th July. Thank you again to all the teachers and parent helpers who have provided extra opportunities for the children during terms 5 and 6...and 'well done', of course, to all the participants.

### **School lunches September 2015**

It has proved a learning year for everyone as we complied with the governments directive to offer free school meals to all pupils in KS1 (Infant Classes). The governors supported the view that school meals should also be offered on a paid basis to pupils in KS 2 (Juniors). The average take up is consistently over 100 meals served each day. We are delighted that we now have 2 regular lunchtime servers employed by the approved contractor who know the school well and are committed to providing the best possible service. Mrs Lester will be writing to parents of pupils in the current Year 2 to explain how the 'ParentPay' facility operates if you wish your child to have hot lunches from September.

### **We say 'goodbye' and a huge 'thank you'**

Miss Greening who has taught at Eastington for many years is retiring at the end of this term. Her vast experience and knowledge of primary education will, undoubtedly be missed. She has provided outstanding support and guidance to (literally) hundreds of children and remained a committed professional colleague and friend to so many. Our very best wishes for a happy and well deserved retirement. I am delighted to announce that Mrs Burns, who currently works part time in Class 2, has accepted a fulltime position.

### **Individual Pupil Reports 2015**

We are currently waiting for the results for pupils who participated in the national assessments. Once these are compiled we will send all reports home before the end of the term. Pupils in Years 2 and 6 will receive additional documentation detailing their child's results. This also applies to parents of pupils in Year 1 who participated in the statutory phonic screening tests.

### **Leavers Assembly**

A reminder that parents of pupils in Year 6 are invited to a special 'farewell' assembly and presentation on Friday 17th July at 6.00pm in the school hall.

Thank you for your continued support.

Your sincerely

**M J Strang**  
Headteacher



'Aiming high ....**Together**'