



## Dear Parents,

I hope you are finding time to bask in the beauty of the crisp mornings and winter sun at present. We are all hoping it lasts into the half term break (though secretly many children are still wishing for a flurry of snow!)

### Class 5 Assembly

**Article 24: Children have the right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help them stay well.**

At Eastington we strive for all our pupils to develop an awareness of their rights and responsibilities at a local and global level. Class 5 led an interesting assembly about water this term. We found out that the average person needs 20L of water a day for their washing/drinking needs and that in some countries girls are responsible for carrying water over long distances to facilitate this. They also shared an amazing, real life story about a boy called Joe who took responsibility to improve this situation—successfully— by giving his time and skills to sell water and start a water charity. The audiences thoughts: Caitlin took away the importance of turning off taps to conserve water and Mrs Wood was amazed by the difference one person could make in changing a situation for the better.

### Bird of Prey Centre

Mike, from the Bird of Prey Centre, came in for a day to lead sessions with KS2 and EYFS/KS1 children this term. With him were a range of kestrels, owls and eagles of varying sizes. He explained clearly how the birds hunted and had adapted to their habitats -the children loved the experience and used it to produce some great writing. We received a letter from Mike today saying what a pleasure his visit had been and how impressed he was with our children—in his words: “ happy, polite, taking such an interest, well behaved”.

### Y5 Sport Leaders

Thank you to our Y5 Young Sports Leaders who have taken responsibility for devising and running sports games and challenges for EYFS and KS1 pupils during playtimes. The latest choices were: Sharks and Octopuses, Dodgeball, Hula Hoop School, Mining and Minecraft! Pupil views were overwhelmingly positive: it was really fun—Emma I got better at throwing—Poppy

A few parents have expressed an interest in an extra sports club for Y2-Y4 pupils. I am exploring the possibility of this at present. It is likely to be a paid club (£3 per session) run by Mr Boon on Friday before school (8am) covering tag rugby which is a great game for girls and boys. More information will follow soon for parents in that year group.

### Pupil Survey

The pupils in Y4-6 have taken part in the GCC online survey which gathers views from pupils on a wide range of subjects from the amount of sleep children are getting to how safe they feel. In addition we have undertaken a pupils survey with sample pupils from each year group. In response to a question about how we could improve school a Y1 pupil said: we're at school for 6 hours but I'd like 7! The results of both surveys will be actioned and the PSHCE curriculum adapted for classes to support any needs identified.

### Class 4 Assembly: Responsibility

Class 4 led an assembly exploring how we show responsibility for ourselves, others, at home and at school. Donned in shades and dripping with attitude, they offered us a real treat at the end in the form of a responsibility rap—the message was clear and they looked cool too! Xan and Oli said, “I learned hat everyone takes responsibility, even in small ways.” Thomas said, “the rap was fun!”

### Health and Safety

The Governor Premises Committee members and I have undertaken a recent audit of Fire, Buildings and H&S. Through discussion we have recognised a need for a higher gate at the front, some damp issues in the front entrance to be addressed and additional external lighting. These measure have/will be undertaken soon and in keeping with our beautiful building. Thank you to Mr Elliott, Mr Dougan and Mr Hennell—all who contributed with advice and practical support.

## Parent Association

A huge thank you to Sam Jenner, Katy Smith and their merry team for their efforts this academic year. PA events are a wonderful time for us to meet as a school community. I look forward to seeing you all at the forthcoming 'El Quiz Night' on Feb 26th at 7.30pm.

The PA funds have recently been augmented by 2 generous gifts from local businesses—thank you! The PA have given the school a significant contribution of money which has been shared between classes to support the purchase of general resources, lunchtime free play equipment and reading for pleasure listening centres in Class 1 and 2. In addition, we are looking to enhance learning in Y1 and Reception through additional equipment in their outside space which the PA have contributed to. Your help is directly impacting on children within our school positively—thank you for giving your time and skills so generously.

## Dates for your diary

Some advance notice of key dates....

### Term 3

#### February

- Mon 1st - Value for learning and life: Responsibility
- Fri 12th - Last day for pupils

### Term 4

#### February

- Mon 22nd - Term 4 commences for pupils
- Value for learning and life: Forgiveness
- Thurs 25th - Life Education Bus
- Fri 26th - Life Education Bus
- PA 'El Quiz' 7.30pm

#### March

- Fri 4th - Class 1 Assembly
- Mon 7th - Value for learning and life: Kindness
- Thurs 10th - Country Dancing Festival (6:30-8:00)
- Fri 11th - Class 2 Assembly
- Wed 16th - Parent Evening
- Thurs 17th - Parent Evening
- Fri 18th - C3 Assembly
- Friday 18th - Visit from students from Japan
- Wed 23rd - PA led Easter Egg hunt in school
- Thurs 24th - PA led Crazy hair day (No permanent colour/cuts please!)
- PA led Easter Egg Draw after school
- Last day for pupils

**Term break - Fri 25th March - Mon 11th April 2016.....**

Thank you for your continued support,

**Zoe Avastu**

**Headteacher**



*Aiming high.....together*