



Dear parents,

How lovely to see a little more light in the mornings and evenings now. The carpet of snowdrops in the churchyard brings a smile, as do the crocus bulbs sprouting in the school tubs—Spring is creeping through. Enjoy reading about school life in February.

Class 1 Assembly

Class One led an interesting assembly on being forgiven. The children recited a poem and acted out the story of the doll and snake. They also shared their reflections on forgiving others and being forgiven. The message was clear, we all make mistakes and it's important we say sorry and to try hard not to make the mistake again. Thank you Class One!

Recycling

We have always reused and recycled paper as a school and now have bins in every class to enable pupils to help with this. The children helped me to sort a pile of rubbish in assembly, everything from tissue boxes to post-its to a yellow pages—the children got better as we practised. Maybe your children could help you recycle at home?

Reflections on trust

We have been exploring the important values of honesty and trust for the last three weeks through assemblies. The children were great at explaining that trust is when you have a belief that someone is reliable, honest and responsible. We used the model of reflection that Miss Dracup developed to help us think through our ideas:

Looking out: Picture someone you trust. Why do you trust them?

Looking in: Think about a time when you have been trusted. How did it make you feel?

Looking ahead: Decide on one thing you could do or say so other people know they can trust you?

The children's thoughts:

- It was great when a friend trusted me with a good secret, it made me feel great inside. – Daisy
- When someone trusts you it makes you feel important and it fills your bucket. — Ruth, Freya & Anna
- Cameron fell over when we were playing tag and instead of carrying on I stopped and helped him so he knows he can trust me. Adam

When we thought about it we realised that our school was full of children who are trustworthy.

Talk for Writing

The teachers and TAs have loved being part of a Talk for Writing project for the last year—the aim being to further improve the quality of writing within our school.

Teachers and TAs have worked together with Pie Corbett, a leading educationalist, to reflect on their teaching and learn new techniques. Here are their thoughts:

- I love that the Reception children are drawing story maps and acting out the stories we're learning in their child initiated play. Mrs Parsons
- The children have enjoyed innovating and creating new stories from the stories they've learned by heart. Miss Dracup
- We build on strategies taught in the other classes—it's been great to see the whole journey and understand the importance of firm foundations learned earlier in the school. We were introduced to Floodlands—a fantastic story that enthused the children—we used it as a stimulus to improve our writing in lots of different genres. Mrs Yorke

The yearly project comes to an end this term and we are delighted with how much we have learned and the cohesive approach to writing we have in the school.

Thank You

A huge thank you to Mr Hart for using his great skill to repair some plastering in the Class 2 store room. The teachers are thrilled to be able to use the room without having crumbly dust on their equipment, a great job. Thanks to Mr Gardner for planting some bulbs in the front entrance trough—they look very cheerful. Also thank you to Mr Pillinger for spotting a job that needed to be done and offering his time to do it! Our ladybird shelter has had a thorough clean and looks very smart again now. Our school community is great—lots of people contributing in different ways—**THANK YOU!**

Governors

We thank all the candidates for standing in the recent Governor election. We were delighted with the strong skills of all the candidates and with the high level of parent voting. We welcome Mrs Jenner and Mrs Spencer to the Governor team this term.

Easter Treasure Hunt

The Eastington Playgroup are working together with the school PA to organise a wonderful Easter Treasure Hunt on Saturday **April 22nd**. Families can work together to walk the village to find eggs –each of which will carry a clue. The clues will work together to make a sentence. If the sentence is correct children receive a small chocolate egg. The Hunt will start at the school where there will be a snuggly reading area and refreshments. En route there will be a stop at the village hall where there will be activities, tattoos, refreshments and a bouncy castle! It should be a great day of family fun—come along and enjoy it together. Tell your friends too—all are welcome. Maps needed to complete the hunt will be available from Playgroup and School nearer the time.

Clubs

Clubs have started again now it is lighter after school. Thank you to all the teachers for giving their time to support the wider learning of children after school. Just a reminder from staff that pick up from after school clubs is 4pm unless otherwise stated/agreed.

Fencing

You will have undoubtedly noticed the temporary fencing we have put in place along the river bank border to the school. The river bank is moving and as a result the original fence is weak in places. The temporary fencing has created a buffer zone to ensure pupils are safe. The Local Authority have been involved and they aim to undertake work in the Summer to support the bank in a more permanent way.

Dates for your diary

We have listed some of the key dates for your diary.

February

Fri 3rd - Class 1 assembly—10am, school hall, parents welcome

Mon 6th - Value for learning and life: Honesty & Trust

Fri 10th - Final day of Spring Term 1 for pupils

Mon 20th - First day of Spring Term 2 for pupils

- Clubs start for children—information to follow

Mon 20th - Value for learning and life: Honesty and Trust

Mon 27th - Value for learning and life: Friendship

Tues 28th - Y4 'Into The Net' play: ensuring pupils know how to keep themselves safe on the internet

March

Thurs 2nd - World Book Day—dress up as a favourite **book** character.

Mon 6th - Value for learning and life: Friendship

Fri 10th - Class 5 assembly-10am, school hall, parents welcome

Mon 13th - Value for learning and life: Respect

Mon 20th - Japanese Day: finding out more about the culture and life in Japan

- Value for learning and life: Respect

Tues 21st - Welcoming and working with young people from Japan

Fri 24th - Red Nose Day—wear red and bring in your favourite joke to share with friends

- PA cake stall

Mon 27th - Value for learning and life: A sense of fun

Thurs 30th - Y5/6 swimming commences

Fri 31st - Class 4 assembly-10am, school hall, parents welcome

April

Mon 3rd - Value for learning and life: A sense of fun

- Vision & hearing checks for pupils in Reception

Fri 7th - Final day of Spring Term 2 for pupils

Sat 22nd - Eastington Easter Treasure Hunt for families. (Playgroup& PA event)

Mon 24th - First day of Summer Term 1 for pupils



Thank you for your continued support.

Zoe Avastu