



Dear Parents

Welcome back to the summer terms....and the sunshine!

Thank you for all the Easter egg donations and your support during the Grand Draw held on the last day of term 4....150 chocolate eggs is an 'eggs-ordinary' achievement! All monies raised will help to further improve our IT resources. With the support of the Parents Association we are seeking to upgrade the laptops and provide access to learning tablets to extend the children's skills across the curriculum.

What's happening in the classrooms?

Information explaining what your child will be covering as part of their programme of study during terms 5 and 6 will be sent home shortly. This provides an outline of the key areas and highlights individual targets to be achieved. As always, it is important that you take every opportunity to support and enhance each stage of your child's learning. If you wish to discuss the provision in more detail or find out how you can help with your child's development please see your child's class teacher. There is no doubt that learning together can sometimes prove challenging but is usually great fun and most importantly, hugely beneficial. Your support and involvement really does make a difference.

Out and about

Classes 1 and 2 are visiting Berkeley Castle as part of their history studies. Groups from each Class will be visiting the Eastington Community Orchard this week led by Mr Tom Low (local resident and leader of the Community Orchard project). The orchard has undergone a huge transformation thanks to a local support group and provides a lasting legacy for the whole community.

Swimming

A reminder that swimming sessions continue for Years 5 and 6 at Stratford Park during the summer terms.

Pre – school induction programme

Eastington Playgroup join us on Wednesday afternoons commencing Wed 29th April as part of the induction programme for those starting at school in September. This is always a special time as we welcome our 'new recruits' to 'big school'! Please be aware that there may be additional congestion at the end of the day on Wednesdays. Thank you.

News from our friends in Kenya

Mr Dougan has recently returned from Kenya with some wonderful letters and drawings from our friends at Langalanga Primary. He also brought with him 2 special guests from Blescohouse Schools near Nakuru. This is a cluster of sites for children aged 3 to 18 years. Francis and Catherine support the building programme and full time education at all the Blescohouse Schools. Their visit to Eastington was an super opportunity to further strengthen our links with Kenya and help our understanding of different systems and cultures. Mr Dougan also shared his experience from his latest visit to Kenya including a special present to the children of Eastington.....the adoption of an orphaned elephant called Roi. Roi was just 10months old when found next to his dead mother in the wild. He is now safely being cared for at the Olare Orok Wildlife Conservancy, Maasi Mara until his return to the wild. Wonderful indeed!

Summer Event and Duck Races 2015

Members of the Parents Association are meeting on Thursday 23rd April to begin making arrangements for the Summer event and Duck Races which takes place on **Sunday 28th June**. I have no doubt the PA will be in touch with details of how you can help to ensure it a super day for everyone. Please begin by noting the date in your diary when we look forward to your company.

Please check ParentPay (school meals)

May I remind parents of children in KS2 who pay for their children's school meals to please check your account regularly to ensure there are adequate funds to cover the cost of any hot meals. Thank you.

(continued overleaf)

National assessments 2015

A reminder that national assessments for pupils in Years 2 and 6 will be held the week commencing 11th May. Pupils in Year 1 will participate in the national phonics screening test the week commencing 15th June. Parents will be informed of their child's results either at specific information evenings or as part of their child's end of year report.

Terms 5 and 6 promises to be as busy and enjoyable as ever. I have, therefore, listed some of the key dates for your diary.

April 2015

- Thurs 23rd - PA meeting (7.00pm school)
- Mon 27th - Class 4 Assembly (10.00am parents welcome)
- Tues 28th - Classes 1 and 2 to visit Berkeley Castle
- Wed 29th - Eastington Playgroup pre school sessions begin (1.45pm school hall)

May

- Fri 1st - Bluebell (Senior citizens) Club to visit/coffee morning
- Mon 4th - School closed (Early Spring Bank holiday)
- Mon 11th - National Assessments for Years 2 and 6
- Tues 19th - Maths problem solving workshops for all Classes
- Wed 20th - 'Welcome'/information evening for parents of children starting in Sept. (6.00pm school hall)
- Fri 22nd - 106th May Queen celebration/crowning ceremony (3.30pm)
- Term 5 concludes

Mon 25th May – Fri 29th May Term break

June

- Mon 1st - School closed staff only (INSET Day)
- Tues 2nd - Term 6 commences
- Wed 3rd - PGL Y6 residential week parents information evening (6.00pm school hall)
- Mon 8th - Class 1 Assembly (10.00am parents welcome)
- Class 5 Chemistry workshop led by Rednock staff
- Tues 9th - Class groups and leavers photographs
- Mon 15th - Y6 PGL residential Adventure Week (Hillcrest, Ross on Wye)
- Phonic tests/assessment for pupils in Y1
- Mon 22nd - Class 2 Assembly (10.00am parents welcome)
- Stroud Schools Athletics Championships (field events – St Matthews 4.00pm)
- Thurs 25th - Y6 parents SRE (Sex Relation Education) information evening (5.30pm school hall)
- Fri 26th - The 'Bill Fletcher' Gardening Award 2015
- Sun 28th - Eastington PA Summer Event and Duck Races (12.15pm onwards)
- Mon 29th - Class 3 Assembly (10.00am parents welcome)
- Stroud Schools Athletics Championships (track events) Strafford Court (6.00pm)

July

- Fri 3rd - Musical evening (6.00pm school hall)
- Mon 6th - Y6 cycle training begins
- Wed 8th - Alex Fryer Musical Award special assembly
- Thurs 9th - Final swim session for Y5 & 6 at Stratford Park
- Fri 10th - Robinson Cup Sports Award special assembly
- Individual pupil reports to parents (proposed)
- Mon 13th - Sports Day (1.45pm school field, Cotswold Avenue, Eastington)
- Fri 17th - Children's final day of school year (3.15pm)
- Y6 leavers assembly to parents (6.00pm school hall)
- Mon 20th - INSET Day (staff only)

There will, undoubtedly, be additional dates/events that are class/Year group specific. Your child's class teacher will inform you as soon as these are confirmed. Thank you for your continued support.

Your sincerely

M J Strang
Headteacher



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