



Dear parents/carers,

What a super term of learning and fun! The kind-heartedness, creativity and desire to learn have made our school a special place to be. The Christmas productions have both been particularly wonderful this year too—we hope you enjoyed them.

Thank you for your continued support too. I know many of you have been helping with children learning lines, PA fund-raising, DIY jobs (thank you again Mr Haines) - it makes a real difference. If I don't see you before we break-up, I wish you all a fun-filled and peaceful Christmas with your family and friends.

Music at Eastington

At Eastington we ensure that all our children have access to quality music provision. We have developed a curriculum which clearly outlines the progression of skills and knowledge that will support

children as they move to secondary school. To support learning, we use Charanga, BBC Ten Pieces and give the opportunity for our children to hear professional musicians—the incredible Carducci Quartet and brilliant concert pianist Clare Hammond. More recently, with the aid of funding from our brilliant PA, the children in KS2 have enjoyed whole class instrument lessons on glockenspiels too—this has particularly helped children with note reading, improvisation and composition.

The children in KS2 gave a super concert to parents this week. They showed their developing skills as they performed many well know songs and Christmas tunes. The audience enjoyed joining in as well. Some children were a little nervous but overcame which was really wonderful to see. Thank you children for a wonderful end of term treat.

Thanks to Ms Butler for being such an outstanding music teacher—the children (and teachers) have loved working with her. Thanks to Mrs Mifflin for her work in developing our curriculum and Mrs Birch for finding wider music opportunities—a great team.

KS2 Fee, Fie, Fo, Fum Performances

The older children drew many a laugh in their recent performances of Fee, Fie, Fo, Fum. The performances were full of toe-tapping tunes from start to finish. As the story unfolded, the soloists (Tess, Evan, Liv, Charlotte and Thomas) sang with confidence and the actors spoke with clarity and timed the cheesy word play jokes to perfection - who will forget Daisy the Cow or the Hen who laid the golden egg? The part singing was magnificent through-out too. What talent we have at Eastington!

Being together reminded us that at the centre of Christmas is the opening of hearts to care and give to others. The children certainly gave us a real treat - we are just so proud of them all.

The retiring collections from the Christmas performances will be divided between school funds and the charity chosen by the children, Teckels animal rescue. Thank you for your kindness and generosity when giving.

Thank you to the brilliant teachers and TAs for all their hard work in preparing for the performances, especially Mrs Yorke for being a fun & creative 'director'.



Posting Letters to Father Christmas

Class 1 & Class 2 children have been enjoying writing to Father Christmas recently. The youngest child in Class 1 always posts the letters. We are blessed at Eastington as, despite being busy, Father Christmas always makes time to respond to our children too!



PSHE Curriculum

We aim for all our children to develop a good understanding of difference through our RE & PSHE curriculums. We have recently reviewed and updated our PSHE curriculum—specifically in relation to how we help children to celebrate difference and understand race. For more information on the objectives we teach and the resources we use, please see the CURRICULUM INFORMATION section of the website and click to view the PSHE Progression documents for KS1 and KS2.

We have found some useful books and wanted to share these with you - working together supports our children. For children in Reception and KS1 we are using a book called *'Our Skin—a first conversation about race'* by Madison, Ralli and Roxas. This book helps children to understand all skin is beautiful, why skin is different colours and that treating others unfairly because of skin colour is unfair and hurtful. In KS2 we are using *'What is Racism'* by Daynes and Akpojaro. This book explains what racism is and how we can work together to prevent it. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Christmas Fair

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Christmas Fair which provided a brilliant opportunity for the school community to come together. There was lots of fun with 'Sprout or Ball', Christmas Bean Bag target, glitter tattoos, tasty s'more making, a fantastic tombola and of course a visit from Father Christmas. It was a great afternoon of activity with many smiles.

All money raised will support school initiatives to ensure our children have great opportunities—it makes a real difference so thank you for coming and joining in the fun.

Heartfelt thanks to Mrs Bennie, Mrs Mackereth, Mrs Meansworth, Mrs Hussey, Mr Vidgen, Miss Reece, Miss Malik and all the amazing PA team & parents who helped make the fair such a successThank you all!

DIARY DATES: Autumn Term 2

December 19th: Christmas Dinner—please wear Christmas jumpers
December 20th: Final day of Term 2

Spring Term 3

January 6th: Staff Inset
January 7th: First day of term for children
January 9th: C5 swimming starts
January 17th: Y4-Y6 Sea Music with Bournemouth Orchestra at Bristol Beacon (details to follow)
January 24th: Multi-skills Festival Y1 (information to follow)
January 28th: Life Education sessions with Coram (links to PSHE curriculum)
January 29th: Life Education sessions with Coram (links to PSHE curriculum)
January 31st: PA Cake Sale after school
February 3rd: Open afternoon for parents 2.50-3.05
February 10th: Reception/Y6 School nurse visit to measure height etc
February 11th: Y6 Online Safety session with BEAT OFFICER PC Coll
February 14th: PA Friendship Disco—TBC

Thank you for your ongoing support,
Zoe Avastu

Aiming high.....together

