

# Eastcombe News

## Foreword from the Head

Date: 23/10/2023 Issue: 1

What an incredibly busy term we have had. It's been a long one and I cannot believe how quickly the weeks have gone by. The children have had many highlights this term including school trips, theme days, lunchtime club, after school clubs, a flag competition, a cake sale, swimming and school photos! Add to that the staff have hosted parent information evenings, met with parents individually at parents evening, attended training, prepared for class assemblies and Harvest and had an OFSTED visit! Not to mention all the learning that has taken place...we are all certainly ready for half term. Thank you to the children for working so hard this term, you are all superstars!

Next term we have lots of lovely events to look forward to, the dates are listed below and we will keep you updated via Class Dojo, Facebook, Instagram and our website.

### Office News

- Don't forget to sign up for after school clubs, we have Science, Coding and Young Voices on offer.
- Flu consent forms need to be returned to the school office, even if you are declining the flu vaccination offer.
- Y5 & Y6 parents: the next instalment of the Residential payment is now due. If you have difficulties making this payment please contact the school office and we can help or advise.
- If you are yet to pay for swimming or badminton then you can still make payments using Parent Pay.
- A big thank you to all parents who have accompanied us swimming this term. Your help is much appreciated.

**REMINDER—Friday 27th October is an INSET day.**

### Important transition dates

If you are looking for a **Reception** place for next academic year, September 2024 then applications need to be made online by **15th January 2024**. From early November 2023 you will receive a letter from the local authority and the application window will open.

If you are in **Y4** and wanting to explore the idea of Grammar schools as a Secondary School option then this is the time to prepare. Start looking at their websites, secure a tutor for 11+ preparation work to commence in September of their Y5 year and consider attending Grammar school open days.

### Transition dates cont...

If you are in **Y6** currently and will be starting Secondary School in September 2024 then there are some important dates for you.

Closing date for **ALL** secondary school applications is **31st October 2023**.

Secondary School allocation day is **1st March 2024**.

#### Pre-school stay and play session.

We are holding a stay and play session for children interested in a Reception school place in September 2024. Join us on Thursday 16th November, 2.15-3pm. No booking required.

### Diary Dates

#### November:

Mon 6th - Start of Term 2  
Tues 7th—Lloyds Bank money workshop for Y3-6  
Thurs 16th—Stay and Play pre-school session 2.15pm  
Fri 17th—Children In Need, Rags2Riches and ESA disco  
Fri 24th—Flu vaccinations  
Mon 27th—INSET day

#### December:

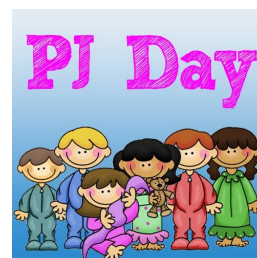
Fri 1st—Pyjama day ESA fundraiser & 6pm Lighting of the Christmas Tree  
Weds 13th—Pantomime trip  
Mon 18th—Christmas Activities Week commences  
Weds 20th—Caterlink Christmas Lunch and Nativity  
Thurs 21st—Whole school Christmas Lunch and Party  
Fri 22nd—Last day of Term 2

**RETURN TO SCHOOL On Mon 8th Jan 2024**

### ESA NEWS

The ESA have started the school year with a bang and the cake sale raised a fantastic £98! Thank you to Squirrel class parents for making and donating cakes and everyone else who bought one.

Our next fundraising activities include a disco night for the children on November 17th and a PJ day on Friday 1st December. All money raised goes directly towards helping fund school trips, resources and play-ground furniture.



## “Aim high, believe and achieve”