

OCTOBER 2018 - NEWSLETTER 2

18th October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

As usual there are lots of events going on in school, so please carefully check the diary dates section at the end of this newsletter so that you do not miss out on any of the events that are coming up later this term.

Thank You

We are always extremely grateful when families so generously donate to the school and we would like to thank the following who have recently given items or time:

A massive thank you to the following Mums who have spent the last few weeks helping Mrs Roberts to get our new library up and running – Joelle Chaney (mum to Oliver in Starlings class), Tracey McCrae (mum to Evan at EPJS), Tamsyn Williams (mum to Phoebe Balchin at EPJS), Maria Gilbert (mum to Serena in Falcons class) and Sam Maitland (mum to Gilby in Blackbirds class)



George Schlich (dad to Jamie in Falcons and Lucie in Puffins classes) who has made a very generous donation to purchase Christmas decorations for our new 21foot tree and for around the new school building. We can't wait until it's time to put them up!

Thank you to all those parents who have kindly donated resources for use within the school.

And finally **all the families** who helped during School Grounds day this week and donated bulbs – you have done a great job. A particularly big thank you to Lesley Bridger for donating herbs and planting them in the early years area and to Trevor Buckland for trimming the boundary hedges and disposing of the gardening waste at the tip. We are very grateful for your help.

Reminder: Individual Photos – Tuesday 30th October

Individual and family photographs will be taken on Tuesday 30th October.

Please note all Infant and Junior children will have an individual photo taken in their own school in school time unless parents inform the appropriate school that they do not wish one to be taken.



All family groups including pre-school children, Junior and Secondary children, will be taken before school from 8.00am onwards at the INFANT SCHOOL. They will need to be accompanied by an adult. Each family will be given a number to make queuing fair.

Family groups including **ONLY** Infant School children will be taken during school time at the Infant School.

Reminder: Parent Consultation Evenings: Monday 12th and Thursday 15th November

We are holding our Parent Consultation evenings on **Monday 12th and Thursday 15th November from 3.30 – 6.00pm**. A separate letter has already been sent out. Please note that these meetings are exclusively for parents and teacher only. **Please make alternative arrangements for your children.**



Reminder: Junior School Transfer/ Reception 2019



All Year 2 children will by now have received their Junior School transfer packs. Please note that the **deadline for applications is 15th January 2019**. For those of you who have younger children due to start school in September 2019 please make sure that you apply for your place by the closing date of **15th January 2019**. These deadlines are extremely important and we have had parents in the past miss out on places as their paperwork was not submitted on time.

'Stay and Play' Sessions



This term, in response to feedback from parents and carers, we are trialling 'Stay and Play' sessions instead of workshops, which many parents find difficult to get to. These sessions will take place at drop-off time and will be an opportunity for you to learn alongside your child and find out about key areas of the curriculum such as Reading, Writing, Maths and Phonics. We hope that you will find these easier to attend and find them informative about ways in which you can support your child's learning at home. Please see your weekly home-learning letters for further details about the events for your year group.

Poppies for Sale

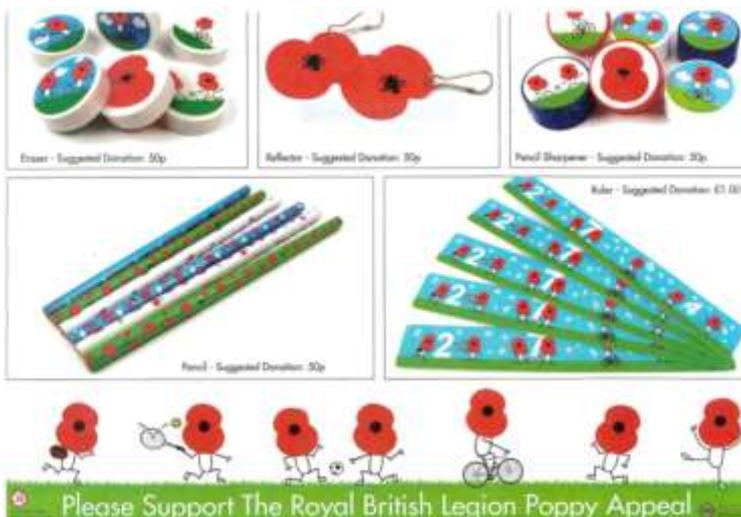
The School Council will be selling poppies in school after half term up to Friday 9th November 2018.



This year, they have supplied the following items for sale:-

- Erasers – suggested donation 50p
- Pencil Sharpener – suggested donation 50p
- Pencils – suggested donation 50p
- Rulers – suggested donation £1

The British Legion suggests a minimum donation of £1 for wristbands and 20p for poppies.



Thank you for your support.



Kindness Trees

Over the next few weeks the teachers will be introducing kindness trees in the classrooms. When the children are spotted acting in a kind way they will be given a kindness leaf which will go on the kindness tree. The kindness leaves will then come home after they have been displayed on the tree.

Children in Need: Friday 16th November

This year we will again be supporting Children in Need during the week of 12th November and culminating in a non-uniform day on Friday 16th November. More details will be sent out after half term about the range of events and competitions your children will be partaking in, but Pudsey badges and wrist bands will be on sale from Monday 12th November.



Spotlight on Safeguarding



This is a new section to our newsletter where we aim to give you information on how we approach Safeguarding at East Preston Infant School and to make sure our families know what is involved when we talk about safeguarding and the processes we follow. Each month this section will focus on a different aspect of safeguarding from security of our school premises to making referrals.

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding refers to the process of protecting children to provide safe and effective care. It is the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding means that:

- children are protected from mistreatment
- a child's health, or development, is protected
- children grow up with safe and effective care
- action is taken to ensure the best outcomes for all children.

In day to day practice, this means we ensure that the school site, both inside and outside, is safe, that risk assessments are in place for off-site visits. We ensure members of staff have gone through a rigorous recruitment process and that appropriate checks have been made. We ensure that staff know what their role is when protecting children.

Designated Safeguarding Lead

In school we have 2 members of staff who take a lead on safeguarding. They are known as Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL). At East Preston Infant School the Designated Safeguarding Leads are Claire New and Lucy Owens.

A DSL undergoes training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. This training is updated every two years. In their day to day role the DSL they raise awareness and ensures that policies are in place. They carry out annual staff training. The DSL will manage referrals by taking a lead for child protection through working with other agencies (MASH, social care, health, Early Help Services, other schools).

Next month we will focus on attendance and how this is a vital part of safeguarding. If you have any questions in relation to safeguarding you can find further information on our website or you can speak to either myself or Mrs New.

We have been asked to share the following information with you:

Will you join us and help keep children safe online?

West Sussex County Council has joined forces with O2, the NSPCC and children's charity Barnardo's in a mission to help children and their families stay safe.

We will be hosting a FREE online safety workshop called Stay Safe at the Newtown Sports & Social Club: 16A Greencourt Drive, Bognor Regis PO21 5EU at 6pm on Thursday 8th November. We would like parents, carers and guardians, grandparents and others to join us for this informative event.

The 2 hour workshop will be a great opportunity for those attending to gain skills and knowledge to try and understand the internet and technology as children see it. The workshop will cover topics such as: online games and cyber bullying, through to setting up privacy settings and controls as well as ways to help you have the right conversations with your children about online safety. The training is aimed at 7 – 11 year olds; however parents of younger children may also find it useful. There will also be a short input from Barnardo's and local Community Safety experts about some of the warning signs of exploitation and radicalisation.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about the event, please email us at communitysafety.wellbeing@westsussex.gov.uk

Reminder Scooters and Bikes

Parents and children are politely reminded not to scoot or ride on the playground before and after school. This is for the safety of the other parents and children. Thank you.

Parking

Inconsiderate parking continues to be causing problems at drop off and pick up times and we are still receiving regular complaints. We therefore again urge everyone please to be mindful of the safety of not only our children but also our neighbours by parking in a **safe and considerate manner**.



Governors Corner

It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying the changes to the playground and spreading out into the new spaces inside the building. With the enduring milder weather it is hard to believe we're already at half-term and I thought I would use this moment to highlight an aspect of our work as a Governing Body.

Part of being able to perform our role effectively, is by making sure we are as well-informed as possible, undertaking training courses in all areas of a school's work from Safeguarding and school Finance to understanding school Data and making school Policies effective. It has been a busy few weeks behind the scenes and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate one of our parent governors, Dr Rachel Keys, on attaining her Certificate of Governance, having completed at least seven courses and a written report. No mean feat! Mrs Sue Mansfield is also close to achieving this and I would like to thank all the governors for their dedication to the School.

The role of a governor does require time and commitment but is also very rewarding, particularly when you can see the impact in happy, secure children enjoying high quality learning in a fantastic environment. If you think you know someone who would be interested in becoming a governor or would like to learn more about the role, please do contact me via the school office.

Sue Nelson
Chair of Governors

Dates for your Diary

Attached are some dates for you to note on your calendar, please check each newsletter for any updates or amendments.

As this will be the last newsletter before half term I hope you all have a great half term break and a happy Halloween.

Claire New

Claire New (Mrs)
Headteacher



Diary Dates



Friday 19th October - INSET day – school closed to pupils

Half Term Monday 22nd – Friday 26th October

- Monday 29th October - School reopens for pupils
- Tuesday 30th October - Individual Photos (8am at EPIS for EPJS siblings)
- Wednesday 31st October - Flu Vaccinations
- Thursday 1st November - FEPIS 'Bags of Support'
- Tuesday 6th November - Y2 trip to Synagogue
- Wednesday 7th November - Prospective parents Open Morning
- Monday 12th November - Woodpeckers 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Monday 12th November - 3.30 – 6pm Parent Consultations
- Tuesday 13th November - Starlings 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Wednesday 14th November - Blackbirds 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Thursday 15th November - 3.30 – 6pm Parent Consultations
- Friday 16th November - JustDifferent visiting Y2
- Monday 19th November - Kestrels 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Tuesday 20th November - Kestrels 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Wednesday 21st November - Hawks 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Thursday 22nd November - Hawks & Falcons 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Bake for Syria UNICEF cake sale after school
- Friday 23rd November - Falcons 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Tuesday 27th November - Year R 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Wednesday 28th November - Year R 'Stay & Play' – 9 to 9.30am
- Monday 3rd December - 5.30 – 6.30pm Campfire Carols (details to follow)
- Friday 7th December - FEPS Christmas Fair at EPJS (details to follow)
- Wednesday 12th December - 9.30am KS1 Christmas Play
- 2pm YR Christmas Play
- Thursday 13th December - 9.30am YR Christmas Play
- 2pm KS1 Christmas Play
- Friday 14th December - Christmas Jumper Day
- Whole School Christmas lunch
- Monday 17th December - 9-10am Open Morning – all welcome
- 1.30 pm Christmas Service at St Mary's Church
- Tuesday 18th December - am whole school Pantomime
- pm Christmas parties
- Terms ends at 3.15pm
- Wednesday 19th December - INSET day - school closed to pupils**

The term will restart for the children on Thursday 3rd January 2019

Other INSET days:-
Friday 15th February 2019
Friday 15th March 2019
Friday 24th May 2019