



East Allington Primary School and Nursery

www.eastallingtonprimary.org.uk

parent@eastallingtonprimary.org.uk

01548 521305

***READ READ READ! Just 10 minutes every day.
We hope you found our parent to parent guide useful – now
the evenings are drawing in, get reading!***

***We hope you have a relaxing and safe half term.
See you again on Monday 28th October.***

28 October - first day back after half term is Tempest Photos.

FSU needs you!

We need contributions of;

- Tractors and farm vehicles
- Girl's pants
- Socks
- Toy cars
- Doll's house
- Doll's house furniture
- Small cutlery
- Role play items- shop, kitchen, fire station, police station, vets, space, construction, hairdressers.
- Please can Reception class have any cardboard tubes (kitchen roll etc).

17 October 2019



Upcoming Events

HALF TERM: 21-25 October

Return to school: 28 October

Tempest Photos: 28 October

***Class 1 Kent's Cavern Trip: 1
November***

***Class 2 Viking Workshop: 5
November***

Flu Vaccinations: 8 November

***Theatre Performance for
Foundation Stage: 14
November***

***END OF TERM: 21 December –
5 January***

SPRING TERM 2020: 6 January

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Out and About: Tuesday: our year 4s were out at Slapton Field centre this week as 'Wildlife Champions' representing the school. Devon Wildlife Trust organised a brilliant day of interesting and fun workshops on marine life, compost, bats and much more. Thank you to Kelly Barons for accompanying this trip. We will be using our skills to make the school an even greater haven for wildlife, maybe attracting more hedgehogs! **Thursday:** classes 2 and 3 are visiting the Dartmouth food festival!

Halloween: we know many children will want to dress up but **please ensure your child does not come in wearing any full or partial face masks**. These can be frightening to some children. We want everyone to have fun, but we must respect the feelings of others.

Parent Pay: Please help us become a cashless school by using Parent Pay. Any questions please ask the office.

Administration: letter sent out 15/10/19 is also attached to this newsletter.

Breakfast club: the new administration post will not include cover of breakfast club, as we want to use the time for the main role. When a new appointment is made, teachers will cover this in the first instance but we are looking for someone to cover as many mornings as possible (8 – 8:45) so teachers have the time to prepare for the day in their classes. If you would be able to cover this – even for just one morning, please let us know. This will be a paid post.

Volunteers: We still need as many volunteers as possible; **Can you help?** Just a few hours reading support can make a massive difference and even change a life. Working with children is exciting and fulfilling. If you have any time to spare – even an hour, please contact us.

PARENT EVENINGS ARE NOT YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER! If you would like to have a chat with your child's teacher, please make an appointment – we are always happy to talk. If you wish to communicate with your child's teacher via email, please use the school email address and not their personal or work email addresses.

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Nursery: The Nursery Staff have not held formal parental meetings this term because they have been seeing all of the parents regularly. If however, any parents would like to meet with a member of Nursery staff to discuss their child please see either Julie Piper or Suzie Singer to arrange a convenient time. Thank you.

Please remember tomorrow: Friday (18th) is a NON PUPIL DAY. Teachers will be at Rydon Primary school (another ESW school) for training and further development of our curriculum so we can offer our children the very best.

Current Attendance YTD:

Reception	97.37%
Class 1	97.20%
Class 2	96.53%
Class 3	93.46%
School	96.21%

Overall, we are above our target of 96% however this has dropped from last week. Let's try to improve on this.

PTFA – Dates for your diary

- 31st October (Thursday) Halloween Breakfast
- 16th November (Saturday) Pub Quiz & Basket Meal... gather your team
- Christmas craft clubs and fayre dates are to be confirmed.

Internet safety information:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

Parent Info is a free web service providing information to parents and carers:

<https://parentinfo.org/>

Advice from NSPCC on social networks, apps and games: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/ShareAware>

A non-profit organisation working with others to help make the internet a great and safe place for children: <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

Letter regarding School Administration

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, we have been trialing new arrangements this term in order to get the biggest impact from our budget. We have listened carefully to the views of parents and staff, and are now moving forward with amended arrangements to address your concerns and maximise the number of staff hours available to work with children.

Once a new administrator is appointed, we will have 20 hours of administration time each week. A timetable of how this will look will be out to you by Thursday. We aim to have at least one day when the administrator can be in the office at the end of the day as we understand this is a useful time for parents.

A revised job description is now in place to guide the recruitment process and induction to follow the appointment of a successful candidate.

We have recently benefitted from the appointment of a new teaching assistant for four days a week (26 hours/week), so in overall staffing, the school will now have 9 hours more than when Karen Elliot was in post. We aim to get as many staff in front of children. Although we have less administration time, we now have more classroom staffing time than previously. This means more staff on the ground to ensure safety and high-quality teaching for every child.

To make up for the loss of administration time, we have been working with colleagues in ESW to see how some tasks previously done by the administrator can be done centrally – particularly those concerning money. One way all parents can help is by adopting the use of Parent Pay as soon as possible. This will cut out the need for the administrator to collect, check and bank many small amounts of cash, freeing up time for other tasks.

What about contacting the school? When there is no administrator in the office, it will, at times, be manned by the Head of School. On times when he is in class, we have two mobile phones which will be carried by support staff. In the case of an emergency, these support staff will be able to leave the class they are in and answer the enquiry, without affecting lessons. We will let you know of these numbers but ask that you use them for emergencies only.

A note of all this information, including the emergency numbers, will be in newsletters and on the front door of the school.

Rebecca Gray will stay in post until the new incumbent is completely inducted into the role so there will be no gaps.

We are now in a position to move this situation forwards. Thank you for your understanding. If you would like to know more or talk through any of these points, please contact the parent email. Tom Pether

Devon appeals for adopters to come forward as number of children waiting increases



Adoption agencies in Devon are working together this National Adoption Week (14-20 October) [to appeal for potential adopters to come forward](#). This comes as numbers of adopters drop to an all-time low in the county and the number of children waiting continues to grow.

Regional Adoption Agency, [Adopt South West](#), and independent adoption charity [Families for Children](#) are specifically looking for adopters who will consider adopting a sibling group. If adoptive families cannot be found soon then it is likely that these brothers and sisters will be separated.

Local figures published to mark National Adoption Week, suggest that 40% of the children in Devon waiting for adoptive families are brothers and sisters in groups of two. Figures from the national adoption information service show that sibling groups wait four times longer than single children to be placed with an adoptive family.

Kath Drescher, Adopt South West Service Manager, says:

"The majority of people adopting for the first time choose to take a single child into their family rather than considering siblings. Also, it is often in the best interests of the children that a sibling group finds a family together rather than experience further trauma by being separated. This presents an extra challenge for social workers and these factors account for the high proportion of siblings in our region waiting for an adoptive family.

"We're asking anyone who may be considering adoption to think about whether they could parent siblings. There's no denying that having more than one child comes with real challenges, but it also has advantages and brings great rewards and we'll be there to support you all the way."

Adopt South West want potential adopters to know that:

- the adoption process can prepare you for becoming an adopter within as little as six months;
- there are children who need new permanent families now;
- anyone over 21 can adopt and there is no upper age limit;
- LGBTQ+ and intersex people can adopt;
- single people can adopt;
- adopters can be of any religion or none;
- disabled people can adopt;
- adopters will be fully trained before the child is placed;
- adopters are supported throughout the process and beyond.

During National Adoption Week, there are a number of information events being held across the county to inform and discuss the process of becoming an adopter and the vulnerable children who are currently waiting. If you're interested in finding out more, please get in touch with us at [Adopt South West](#).



EAST ALLINGTON PTFA ARE
HOSTING A QUIZ NIGHT

JUST £10 A TICKET

*TO INCLUDE A LOCALLY PRODUCED
BASKET MEAL*

MAXIMUM TEAM SIZE 6

RAFFLE & GAMES ON THE NIGHT

FUN QUIZ FOR EVERYONE

*PLEASE RESERVE YOUR TABLE WITH
KELLY BARONS*

PRIZE FOR WINNING TEAM

**QUIZ NIGHT AT
THE FORTESCUE ARMS
EAST ALLINGTON**

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 7.30PM



PTFA Cake Raffle



Tickets just 50p each



*On sale both before and after school every day
From Sarah Hepburn-McCarthy and Bex Hiley*



Winner drawn every Friday