

East Boldon Infant School

Newsletter



March 2020

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, the lighter mornings and evenings are upon us. However last Monday's weather really took us by surprise! Hopefully Spring will definitely be on it's way soon! Although we have had a few lovely sunny days, the temperature is still variable and we have seen several seasons in one day—so please ensure your children have a warm coat with a hood in school.

I would like to share with parents/carers that we have appointed our new clerical assistant for the school office. Miss Giles has worked in a number of school offices and she is very excited about joining us at East Boldon, working alongside Mrs O'Brien, but also about working with our children and families too. I'm sure you will quickly get to know her and will make her feel very welcome as she begins the new post in the coming weeks.

Thank you for all the attendance at the parent workshops. It was lovely to see so many parents and family members join us for a session of sharing learning with the children. Feedback was extremely positive and this is something we will continue with, alongside our more teacher led information evenings. We think the balance of both works well, to give you the chance to hear about the curriculum, but the chance to see it in practice with your child. All comments were gratefully received and we have taken all suggestions on board.

Parent's Evenings also took place last week and it was lovely to see so many parents in attendance. You will have received a short target slip to take away with you, with some small areas for your child to develop and work on in the key areas. We hope you find these useful to know where your child is working at and how they can improve.

We are all looking forward to World Book Day Celebrations in school. We enjoyed a 'Code Breaker Day on Monday 2nd March. This involved our hall being recreated into a 3D environment for the children to be immersed into book settings. They then had a series of codes that they worked together to solve! It was very exciting—we had lots of fun! We will share the 'dress up as a book character' day with the Juniors on Friday 6th March.

You may have noticed our brand new gates on our main entrance! The Local Authority have supported us in the replacement of these as the previous gates had been in position for a while and we were concerned about the reattachments to the walls. Hopefully, in time we will replace the gates into Reception and the gates at the front of the building, but small steps in the right direction are all that's needed! I can't wait for the Spring planters to be put in to bring some further lovely colours into the yard.

If parents have not signed up for Twitter..please do so! It's a great way of keeping in touch, quickly, with events and happenings in school. I have met with Dr Cramman, a parent governor and we have reviewed the comments in relation to the website, so we are really keen to progress with this over the coming terms. My hope is that the Twitter feed will run on the website too—so please sign up if you have not already, it is a good way of keeping in touch and it is our aim to continue to add more and more onto it.

We will be asking for Milk Money for the Summer Term to be paid via Parent Pay before the Easter break. **Money can be paid from 20th March and the deadline for payment is Monday 30th March.** This will allow final numbers to be given to the dairy in plenty time so all children can be allocated their milk straight after the Easter break.

Thank you for your continued support. As always don't hesitate to get in touch or speak with your child's class teacher if we can be of any assistance.

Best Wishes,
Miss Holt

A few Diary Dates coming up!

- Monday 2nd March—Code Breaker Book event in school.
- Tuesday 3rd March—Open Zone @The Word staff working with Reception all day in school
- Friday 6th March—Dress Up as a Book Character for World Book Day today!
- Friday 13th March—Non Uniform Day in school for PTA—details to follow
- (Please note that this is also Comic Relief Day—donations and accessories welcome!)
- SATURDAY 21ST MARCH—SPRING FAIR AT EAST BOLDON JUNIORS 10AM-12PM
- Wednesday 25th March 5pm—Phonics Screening Information Evening for Y1 Parents
- Thursday 2nd April—Easter Assembly at St George's Church 2.15pm - Reception to lead—Details to follow

Please note all dates are also on our calendar on the school website—please keep checking!

Friday 3rd April—Break up for Easter Holidays! Chocolate Alert!

School returns on Monday 20th April.

Have a lovely Easter Break!

Miss Holt loves a quote!

“Reading can take you places you have never been before!”

Dr Seuss



Kidsafe



As most parents will know we are a registered Kidsafe school and have been for the past few years. This is a nationally recognised scheme and our tutor in school is currently Mrs Davies. She delivered an introductory session for parents just before the half term break so thank you to those parents/carers who attended.

Our youngest children in Reception will be given their sessions in the Summer Term along with the Year 1/2 recap sessions.

Each session your child will be given a letter to bring home about what has been discussed in the session. These sessions are incredibly important discussing the importance of keeping safe in a variety of situations and empowers our children to keep themselves safe too.

Safe Parking



Please be aware that the parking around school is very busy. Please be mindful of where you park—the restrictions in place are for the safety of all of our children and parents. Parking attendants do continually check the area. Thank you!

Reading Buddy

Reading Buddy is an online reading programme that we purchased last year using our PTA money. It was a new system from Oxford University Press and we were luckily one of the first schools to try it. It has had a few teething problems as a new programme, however, we really think the benefits of its use alongside reading books is great—it allows your child to answer questions about the text and has a little character buddy to help them too.

If you have not yet had your reading buddy log in details, please do not hesitate to speak with your child's class teacher. Reading is so important and a lifelong skill and any ways we can support/motivate your child is key!

Key Learning Challenge Questions

This half term's Challenge Questions have now begun...

Reception = Who are the famous characters in our fairy tales?

Year 1 = Why can't an Emperor Penguin live in Africa?

Year 2 = Where would you prefer to live—England or China?

Highlights...

We have been recognised as a Kindness School and received our certificate with pride. We will be welcoming our care home friends as well as the Mayor and Mayoress on Wednesday 11th March who will present our award formally to us.

The RNLI came into school to work with KS1 about staying safe around water—so important to us living on the coast. The children were great and listened carefully to the messages.

Time to Talk day was a lovely day with lots of talking and sharing about what we like about each other.



Safer Internet Day was very productive...I even managed to chat with children about how they stay safe and I was super impressed with the children's responses—they know if they see anything online that makes them feel sad, scared or worried to tell their teacher!

parents or trusted grown up.



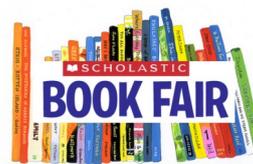
Lori from the Local Authority has worked with Reception and Year 1 about key road safety messages. Using props such as a mobile pelican crossing the children took part in role-play sessions to know how to stay safe as a road user.

Book Fair! Save the Date

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in school from Monday 27th April until Thursday 30th April

It will be available to view and buy some lovely books everyday in the school hall from 3.30-4.00pm

It is a great opportunity for school as we receive a percentage of books bought, which allows us to add to the selection of books we have in our classrooms! It will be lovely to see you there!



Parent Teacher Association



The annual Spring Fair Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday March 21st at East Boldon Junior School.

There will be plenty of stalls/tombolas and refreshments so pop along and join in the fun!

Donations can be sent into school for the Tombola on the non-uniform day Friday 13th March.

Safeguarding Reminder...

Please be aware that it is parents/carers responsibility to ensure children are seen safely into school on a morning. Members of staff are not present in the yard, but at each door entrance to meet/greet the children into school. Thank you.