



Newsletter



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Summer Term - April 7th, 2017

Inspectors

Estyn inspectors made their first revisit to the school last week and yesterday we received a letter to state that they are satisfied that the school is making progress and has a suitable plan in place focused on whole school improvement.

They will now revisit the school in the Autumn term to check on progress. The action plan is thorough and concise and will be summarised for you very soon. However, if you would like to see the original detailed plan please let us know and it can be emailed to you. We will also be asking you to come into school to give your opinions on progress and how you think we could improve the school further. The children will also devise their own improvement plan according to the Estyn report. They always have the best ideas! So, it's a busy term ahead but an exciting one for everyone.

Photos

The photographer was in school this week taking class photographs. We thought it would be a lovely idea to put them up in school year on year and it starts conversations with the children. It always brings a smile when people look at photographs. We will display them so you can see and if you would like a copy you will also be able to order from the company. The photographer is also coming back to school on May 11th to take actions shots - a day in the life of Eastern. They will be taking photographs of the children working, playing, reading etc. We will use them for display in school, school prospectus and the school website.

Tests

The tests are coming to an end thank goodness! It is a very upsetting experience for some children, especially the younger classes. Teachers have made it as comfortable as possible for the children but it is still a very alien experience for them which doesn't always highlight the child's true ability. The results of the tests form part of a whole range of assessments we make and this will be explained to you at a later date.

Uniform

Thank you everyone for making sure the children come in school uniform. They are looking very smart and have more of a team approach now which is great! Thank you for your support. I have spoken to a few children who are not following the school team approach and expressed my disappointment that they are letting us down. The children have a big voice in the school and are listened to. Can you please insist your child wears uniform to show respect for their school. Many thanks.

Delighted!

It is great to see that more children are coming to school on time now. Children who attend school the most make best progress so make sure they are here from the start. Learning starts at 8.50am!! Early bird catches the worm as they say!

Reading

Reading standards were judged as unsatisfactory in the inspection. During the last term every child was tested in their reading and we now have a baseline reading age for all pupils from year 1 to 6. There are many children who are not reading well enough. We are now using catch up programs and changing to a more effective reading scheme. Your child must bring reading books home. If they are not bringing them home I need to know why! Please make sure you read with your child EVERY DAY. We want your child to be better readers too and you have an important part to play in this. The children who have support with reading at home make better progress than those who don't have help at home. We will be having reading events very soon if you need to know how to help your child with their reading.

Diary Dates

May 8th	Dyffryn Uniform fittings 3.30 til 7pm Dyffryn lower school
May 9th	Dyffryn Uniform fittings 3.30 til 7pm Dyffryn lower school
May 10th	Beep beep day - whole school focus on road safety
May 11th	Photographer in school - a day at Eastern Primary
May 26th	Last day of school (one week off)
June 5th	Back to school.
June 6th	Mountain biking with years 4, 5, & 6
June 7th	Year 6 puberty talk
June 8th	Year 5 puberty talk
June 16th	Year 6 transition day with Dyffryn - Margam Park
June 3rd	One day this week - sports day - to be confirmed.
July 4th	Year 6 transition day at Dyffryn lower All children visit new classes.
July 10th	Summer fete
July 14th	End of year reports sent out to parents
July 17th	Year 6 leavers assembly, concert & disco
July 21st	Last day of school
July 24th - Aug 10th	School holiday programme - food & fun theme. More information to follow. First come first served basis.