

# update

East Farleigh Primary School



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### Our Choir at Canterbury Cathedral

Huge congratulations go to all those children who took part in the recent choir concert in Canterbury Cathedral. Everyone sang magnificently and many compliments have been paid to the children's singing, enthusiasm and behaviour. A fantastic effort by everyone.

Sincere thanks go to Miss Hainsworth and Miss BH for taking the time to rehearse everyone and organise the trip.

### Revised Term Dates

- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Last day of term for children
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Training day for staff
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 – School office open – Staff training
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016 – School office open – Staff training
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016 - Children return to school.
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016 – No school for children - Staff first aid training.
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016 – Last day of term
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017 – Children return from Christmas break.

**Governor Vacancy**  
*If any parent would be interested in becoming a school governor or learning more about what might be required, please come and talk to Mr Sapwell or one of our current Parent Governors Mr Steve Shearman or Mrs Nikki Mackay*

### Indoor Athletics

Inter-school indoor athletics competitions were held at Mote Park Leisure Centre earlier this year. Years 1 and 2 took part in a team event. They took part in javelin, long jump, relay racing, bowling and speed bounce competitions. The team worked really hard, being awarded 5<sup>th</sup> place. Later that day year 3 and 4 children stepped up to compete. Events included javelin, chest push, speed bounce and relay races. They did really well also achieving 5<sup>th</sup> place. Later

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in the week year 5 and 6 took part in their own competition. Every child worked their hardest in each event. The behaviour and teamwork from all children was brilliant and we are very proud of every child for their commitment and achievements during the two days. Well done all of you! Thank you to Mrs Hart and Mrs Austin for organising and helping.



## VERY IMPORTANT BAD WEATHER WARNINGS / SCHOOL CLOSURE

We always make every effort to keep the school open in the event of bad weather. However, this is not always possible.

This year there is a new system for reporting when the school is open or closed. KCC has developed a new website designed specifically for reporting closures. **This will be our first point of contact.** Information about whether the school is open or closed will be posted on

**[www.kentclosures.co.uk](http://www.kentclosures.co.uk)**

**Radio stations and local TV will gain their information from this site.**  
If you register in advance you can receive email and SMS alerts as the information is updated.

We will also continue to use Parentmail and our own website to provide up to date information.

Whenever possible "Snowy Weather Work" will also be posted on the website as it has been in the past.



### January

Isabelle B  
James L  
Maddox A  
Finn P  
Matilda S  
Charlotte T  
Isabelle T  
Harry C  
Holly F  
Isabella R  
Joshua C  
Harris D  
Hermaiyni M  
Poppy W  
Molly J  
Harry C  
Izabelle C  
George P  
Eva P  
Millie G  
Abby H  
Millie E  
Ryan W

### February

Silas M  
Lucia T-I  
Joshua L  
Amber G  
Keira J  
Lily T  
Nelly A  
Anika R  
George E  
Mrs D. Adams  
Mrs Austin  
Miss Evans  
Mrs Sunnucks  
Mrs Newman  
Mrs Hart

## Internet Safety

Safer Internet Day is a celebration of the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. Safer Internet Days is celebrated in over a hundred countries, coordinated by the joint Insafe/INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission, and 31 National Safer Internet Centres across Europe. The day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. It calls upon young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and wider, to join together in helping to create a better internet.

As parents please remember that it is your responsibility to check / review your childrens surfing habits, which websites and applications they may use.

**This should even apply to the use of mobile phone and iPad applications.**

## Practising reading at home and in school

Your children may have made you aware that we have been checking regularly to make sure children in all classes have their reading books in school.

We would like to remind you that ideally children should be practising their reading on a daily basis. We know that this is not always practical but we would ask that you try to practise as much as possible.

**We would be delighted to hear from any parent who can spend an hour or so each week to come into school to listen to children reading. Please contact the school office.**

## Parents Notice Board

Emergency contact details—it is very important that you notify the office if your emergency contact details have changed. We have had instances recently when we have been unable to contact parents in an emergency. **PLEASE , IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO NOTIFY THE OFFICE IF SOMEONE ELSE IS COLLECTING YOUR CHILD AT THE END OF THE DAY.**

## Diary Dates

28<sup>th</sup> January 3-6pm I1+ meeting  
9<sup>th</sup> February Safer Internet Day  
15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February Half Term  
22<sup>nd</sup> February Staff Training Day  
25<sup>th</sup> February Friends AGM  
3<sup>rd</sup> March World Book Day  
3<sup>rd</sup> March late Parents evening 5.30pm – 7.45pm  
7<sup>th</sup> March Assessment week  
8<sup>th</sup> March Early Parents evening 3.30pm – 6.00pm  
18<sup>th</sup> March Open Day  
23<sup>rd</sup> March Easter service  
24<sup>th</sup> March Last day of term. Friends Easter egg hunt on the recreation ground.

## Open Afternoon Invitation

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March we will be holding another 'open afternoon'. You are all invited to attend.

This will be an opportunity for you to come and see your children in their class. Your child will be happy to share their activities with you and discuss their work. The open session will take place between 2pm and 3pm. Please do not arrive before this time.

Having visited the open afternoon you will be able to take your child home afterwards, from 3pm. Please notify the class teacher that you are doing so. Unaccompanied children will leave school at the usual time.

## Early Years Canopy

Many thanks to the Parents and Friends of the school who have assisted with the provision of funds for the new canopy over the Early Years play area.

## Jewellery in school

No jewellery to be worn in school please. Girls may only wear stud earrings and they **MUST** be covered over for PE lessons. No necklaces, bangles rings etc.—boys or girls.

## World Book Day

We are always looking for ways to inspire children to read and World Book Day is the perfect time to celebrate the joy of reading.

World Book Day will fall on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March this year and we are already planning a fun filled day celebrating our love of reading.



Following the successful 'Extreme Reading' competition last year we would like to introduce a new 'Read for my Class' competition. The aim of the competition is to encourage each class to read and see who can read the most. Each time a book is completed and signed off in the children's reading record book they will also have the opportunity to log it onto a special class record chart; thus creating a class total of books read. The winning infant and junior classes will be rewarded with a very special prize!

Every pupil can take part in this competition and each class will be provided with a record sheet. The competition will run from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February till Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March; winners will be announced on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March in assembly.

In addition to our competition there will be lots of activities running throughout Book Day including reading time across the school; where the older children will be paired with the younger children, retelling a favourite poem or story to others.

As well as this, each class will be studying a different author throughout the week. We hope to engage the children in new material they may not have tried before.

Additionally on Book Day (3<sup>rd</sup> March) we would like it if everyone can join in the fun by dressing up. Our theme this year is based on your child's favourite story character, it would be great if they could bring the book in to share with others throughout the day. (Please try to avoid superheroes or footballers!) We want to celebrate reading, book and book characters and the joys they can bring! We are looking forward to seeing all the different costumes on the day and look forward to continuing to develop our reading throughout the school.

## Playground and after-school safety

Please make sure you supervise your children closely at the end of the day. Once the children have been handed over to you or dismissed from their classroom it is important that they are supervised whilst on the playground, in the recreation ground or in Vicarage Lane. Please be cautious if you allow your child to walk to the car park via Vicarage Lane. You may wish to consider some sort of high visibility clothing.

### Sporting Success

Well done to Liam P in Class 5 and Abigail M in Year 6.

Liam has qualified for the National Primary cross country championship in Leicestershire  
Abigail has qualified for 6 Kent championship swims in 2016.  
Well done to both of them.

### Medication in school

Wherever possible would you please try to time your child's medication to before and after school. We are happy to medicate in school but only if it is absolutely necessary.

### Duplicate copies

**We are aware that sometimes for personal reasons families require 2 copies of any correspondence / school reports etc. We are happy to send duplicate copies but are not always made aware of your requirements. If you need duplicate copies of any school letters etc please contact the office so that we can add the details to our database.**

### PE KIT

We would be grateful if you would all ensure that your child has the appropriate PE kit in school.

**It is not acceptable that children share PE kit or rely on borrowing from a friend.** Trainers are permitted for outdoor use

### Friends of East Farleigh

Occasionally the 'Friends of East Farleigh school Facebook site' is not always being used in the way in which it was originally intended. The purpose of the site is as a means of disseminating information and raising the profile of school events; not for sharing personal or private information which should be conducted through personal accounts.

We would also like to remind you that this is not an official school site and the postings are not sanctioned or confirmed by the school. Some recent inaccurate postings have caused us to review the way that the site is being used and explore the possibility of alternative arrangements.

Any questions or concerns should be addressed directly to the school and we will be more than happy to provide accurate information. Finally a reminder that the governors do have a code of conduct for parents and this does refer directly to the appropriate use of social media and the internet.

### Christmas Fair

**A huge thank you to the Friends of East Farleigh for arranging the Christmas Fair this year.**

**We can now tell you that the fantastic sum of £2334.34 was raised.**

### Governors Notes

We have been asked to make you aware that from the 1st January 2016 Kent County Council have published a new code of conduct regarding Penalty notices issued for absence from school. That can be read at [http://www.kelsi.org.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0018/51093/KCC-Penalty-Notice-Code-of-Conduct-Final-Nov-15.pdf](http://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/51093/KCC-Penalty-Notice-Code-of-Conduct-Final-Nov-15.pdf)

