

# update

East Farleigh Primary School



## Year 3 learn about hop picking

On Wednesday 12th June we were treated to a special assembly by Class 3 who taught us about hop picking in East Farleigh. Class Three used role play and song to tell everyone about the hop picking traditions of East Farleigh

Picture removed for internet publication

## Attendance, advance warning.

In the new academic year we will be moving towards the use of electronic registration. A system used in most of the local primary and secondary schools. This registration method is directly linked to your child's education record and will enable us, (and the local authority), to view attendance data and determine levels of authorised and non authorised absence for your child.

We expect a minimum of 96% attendance from all pupils.

We would urge you to ensure that all absences are accompanied with a letter explaining the reason for absence. We always appreciate a phone call, but we must receive notification in writing. If considered to be without good cause absences will be recorded as unauthorised. Wherever possible we ask you to avoid taking holiday during the school term. This will only to be authorised at the governors discretion, under special circumstances, and can be refused.

This should be seen as an exception rather than the rule. For obvious reasons please ensure you have authorisation before making any holiday bookings. Holidays taken during term time without permission will be recorded as unauthorised and may incur a penalty notice and fine. Absence will not be authorised for years Y1, Y2 or Y6 during periods of statutory assessment.

## Summer Term Writing Competition

We were really pleased with the response from the children to the writing competition we ran in the spring term. Congratulations to our winners Shye, Jack, Josh, Tilly, Sam, Milly, Lucy, Owen, Francis, Poppy, Braden, Philippa, Bethany and Daniel.

We have decided to run a similar competition for everyone in the summer term., Our competition is based on a chapter in Roald Dahl's book "The Big Friendly Giant". The children are being invited to think about what makes a

good dream. Ultimately we would like to create a "Dream Recipe Cookbook".

Which we can share with everyone.

You should have received a Parentmail with full details of the competition.



## Diary Dates

### JUNE

11th KS1 to Museum of Kent Life

12th Music specialist working with KS2

17th—21st Phonics check week for Y 1/2

18th 1.30 New Entrants visiting

20th 1.30 New Entrants visiting

25th 9.30 New Entrants visiting

26th New Entrants evening

27th 9.30 New Entrants visiting

28th Y3 to Rochester Castle

### JULY

5th Reports to parents

12th 7pm Y6 performance

15th 7pm Y6 performance

11th parent consultations

16th Sports Day

9.30—11.30am Junior

1pm—3pm Infant

18th Reserve sports day

19th End of term disco

24th Last day of term

11am Leaver's Service.

School Returns

5th September

3rd 4th September

staff training days

Thursday

5th September Autumn

Term Begins

See Autumn term dates inside.



## Birthdays:

### May

Thomas P  
Angus W  
Freya T  
Sofia S  
Ryan M  
Ryley G

Maison K  
Benjamin L  
Tyler H  
Ethan A  
Elisha C  
Grace M  
Piero S  
Benjamin F  
Kieran M  
Jasper S  
Molly T  
Rachel D  
Anna P  
Ailish SB  
Alexander W  
Mrs Ball  
Mrs Dive  
Mrs Norgrove  
Mrs Turnbull

### June

Emily KS  
Jack O'M  
Ethan J  
Esme H

Eloise W  
Georgia O  
Amelia H  
Morgan McC  
Samuel T  
Mrs Hills  
Miss Ratcliffe

### July

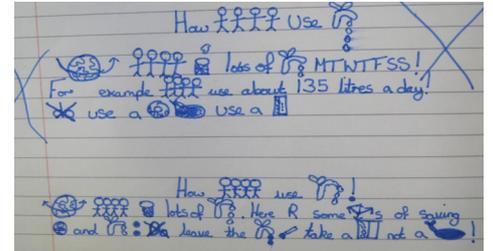
Thomas B  
Hazel C  
Matthew F  
Chloe O  
Ava S  
Jack M  
Ruben T  
Daniel B  
Robert A  
Jessica H  
Joseph F  
Jack S  
Millie S  
Oliver S  
Matis S  
Joshua B  
Samuel H  
Kian R  
James C  
Charlie D  
Emilie F  
Mr Sapwell  
Mrs Skinner

## Writing Project



We are always working to try to help the children improve their creative writing. You will see this terms summer writing competition on the front of the news letter. Recently we have been using the work of Pie Corbett to stimulate and encourage writing.

The children have been enthusiastic to try new techniques and we have been pleased with the results. You will see displays around the school and classrooms of some of the work we have been doing, You can learn more by visiting [www.piecorbett.org.uk](http://www.piecorbett.org.uk)



## Early morning drop off—the playground.

Thank you very much to all of you for your patience during our playground repairs. Many local schools do not allow parents onto the site in the morning. This is not a policy that we are keen to pursue. However, to make our playground safe and accessible for everyone we would ask that you try to follow the steps listed below.

- If at all possible please leave your children to come into school themselves, especially KS2 children
- Please try to leave the playground free for the children to use
- Parents should try to restrict themselves to the patio area.
- If at all possible do not take buggies or pushchairs onto the playground
- To avoid congestion please leave access routes clear.

## Stranger Danger

From time to time we are reminded by the local police force to raise awareness of “Stranger Danger”. As the summer evenings are longer and children are playing outside it is timely we remind the children about “stranger danger”

The children have taken part in a stranger danger assembly and activities in the classroom. They have learnt about “good” strangers and “bad” and we have discussed strategies for dealing with uncomfortable situations. You may want to follow this up at home.



## Our Infants visit the Kent Museum of rural life

Despite the poor weather this week all our infant children spent a really enjoyable day at the Kent Museum of Rural life. Year R enjoyed a “meet the animals” session, Class 1 investigated the “Victorian Scullery” and Year 2 looked at a series of “Homes from the pasty”

“In the morning I went on the tractor ride. It was a very bumpy ride. At the end of the road there was a massive turn. Then we went back down the narrow road and got off” **Riley Geering**

“Next we looked at the animals. One was sheeps another one was a horse and a goat and a chicken. It was interesting because we learnt about the baby ones and where they live.” **Harry M.**

“The coach was very hot. It went round my house which I didn't know it would! On the coach played with the teacher. We played eye-spy. Her name was Mrs Mayhead and she was kind”. **Hannah I**

We were delighted with the day and we are very pleased to tell you that your children not only enjoyed themselves but were very well behaved.

**Well done to Harry Chiddention who won a lucky discount voucher as well!**



## School Meals

**Lunches for term 6 will be £2.20 per day**

It is important for you to know that the school is not directly responsible for the provision of the schools meals , nor the running of the scheme. This is a scheme provided by KCC and a private supplier to whom the school is contracted. We are aware that there have been problems regarding payments and arrears. We have been in contact with KCC regarding this. Unfortunately we are not able to act as a “go between” and matters should be addressed directly with GSPLUS and their representative, Janice, who is in school 3 days per week.

**[www.gsplus.org/kent](http://www.gsplus.org/kent)**

We have been asked to inform you that Kent County Council operates a **no pay no meal policy**. Matters of payments and debt will be dealt with by representatives of GSPLUS.

Please ensure any arrears are paid promptly and we would strongly recommend online payment as this can avoid confusion and delays. A box for school meal payment is available in reception.

## Autumn Term Dates 2013—2014

3rd/4th September—  
training days

5th September—children  
return

25th October—Break up  
for half term

Tuesday 5th November  
Children return to school

Thursday 19th December  
Children break up for

Christmas

(provisional—TBC)

otherwise Friday 20th  
December



## Parentmail

An easier way to stay informed.  
**[www.parentmail.co.uk](http://www.parentmail.co.uk)**



The vast majority of parents are now registered. We hope you will find it an easy and convenient to receive communications.

**If you wish to register or have any problems  
please speak to Mrs Mc Veigh in the office.**

## Healthy Snacks

**Recently we have noticed  
chocolate bars or bag of  
crisps and packets of sweets  
sneaking in!**

**Please avoid this.**

**Please remember that the junior  
classes now have a slightly longer  
morning.**

We encourage the children to bring a  
snack to sustain them through the  
morning. However we would like this  
to be a “healthy snack” of fruit or veg-  
etables or something similar.

It is  
acceptable for children to bring in a  
snack for both breaks if they wish.

**Remember we endeavour to be a  
nut free school so please be aware  
of this when choosing cereal bars,  
although we recognise this can be  
difficult.**

## Friends Of East Farleigh Use of Social Media

Welcome to our Facebook page, we hope that over time that every parent will be able to access our site which contains useful information from up coming fundraising events, but also information on the day to day events that are going on at the school. So for example you will find posts whereby parents are checking which House won the most House Points? Who has homework or not? and whether events are taking place and on what date?

Facebook can be great fun. Everyone can enjoy keeping up-to-date with friends and posting comments. It provides many positive opportunities for keeping in touch and keeping informed. Unfortunately there are also some negatives. People often forget the audience that their comments reach and can post hastily and without proper consideration of who might read it.

We would mention that this page is not designed to act as a Forum for disgruntled parents to air their views. In fact should we find that any misuse does occur it may result in the comment being removed!

We hope that you enjoy our site and please feel free should you have any future fund raising ideas, or thoughts on what the school may need to enhance the educational needs of our children then let the “Friends” know.

## Car Parking

Please be considerate to our neighbours. Park towards the lower end of Vicarage Lane, on the left hand side as you go down.

**Do not park in front of the school gates or in the lane adjacent to the school**

Dangerous parking could result in you being reported to the police.

To avoid parking stress, sign your child up for the walking bus.

## Training days and dates

Training days for the staff have been planned for next year. Tuesday 3rd and 4th September, and Monday 4th November are confirmed. Friday 20th December and Friday 21st March are scheduled but have yet to be confirmed.

## Medicines in School

If you wish your child to receive medication in school you must complete the appropriate forms available from the office. **THIS FORM IS AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD FROM THE SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Under no circumstances should a child have any medication in their possession without our knowledge.

Ventolin inhalers are the exception and may be kept in school bags. They must be clearly named.

## Governors Notes

### Staffing

Mr Sapwell has returned to work after his illness. For the summer term Mr Highman will remain in charge with Mr Sapwell assuming full responsibilities again from 1st September. In the meantime either Mr Sapwell or Mr Highman will be happy to help you.

Mrs Kinsey will be leaving to move on to other things at the end of the term. Thank you very much to Mrs Kinsey for all her hard work over the last few years. We would also like to welcome Miss Bramley-Harker who will be joining our KS 2 staff. —More information regarding transitions to next years classes will follow shortly

### Ofsted plan

The staff and governors have been working hard behind the scenes to address the issues raised in the recent Ofsted inspection. A plan has been approved by the governing body and the local authority and has already been implemented. It will be published on the school website shortly.

## Visiting School

You are always welcome to visit the school.

If you need to call in during the school day please use the main entrance where you should complete the visitors book and receive a visitors pass to the building. **Please be aware you may have to wait for an adult to allow you entry.**

All staff can be identified by their badges.

## THANK YOU

Mr Sapwell would like to say a huge **Thank You** to all staff (especially Mr Highman and Miss Rathmell) for their hard work during his absence. We look forward to everyone working together again during the coming months.

## Walking Bus

**Please remember our daily walking bus.**

We run a daily walking bus from the bottom of Vicarage Lane and The Horseshoes.

If you are interested in using this please contact Wendy Ball. Additional Volunteers are always welcome, particularly on a Thursday.

**Why not park at the Bull and try linking the walking bus with our crossing patrol?**