



Happy, Inspired, Lifelong Learners

Eaton Bray Academy Newsletter

10th September 2021

What a brilliant week all of our children have had! Despite needing to return to restrictions it has still been great to hear about everything that has been happening around the school. We have also been making the most of the wonderful weather and getting outside to learn as much as possible.

Timings

As previously shared, in the mornings our drop off system will still be open at any time **between 8.40 and 8.50am. In the afternoons until we return to our original plans on 20th September children will be picked up by surname.**

Uniform

Do not forget that this academic year we will be tightening up on children following our uniform rules. Please remember that uniform is available from the school shop (link on the website) or pre-loved from the PTA (email pta@eba.ec). If you are having any difficulties with getting the correct uniform (including PE kit) then please let us know.

Covid Restrictions

We would like to reassure you that we will continue to follow all government guidance in order to keep our children safe.

The most important thing we can all continue to do is be careful- if your child has any symptoms please refrain from bringing them to the school site and book a PCR test. The results from these are now received quickly and this will prevent potentially spreading illness.

Attached you can find a flow chart to follow if you have any concerns regarding covid-19.

Children under the age of 18 years and 6 months, or those who are double vaccinated now do not need to isolate if they are in contact with an individual who tests positive. BUT we do ask that a PCR test is taken.

Key Dates:

Monday 13th September – Individual Photos

13th- 20th September- Sponsored reading week

Tuesday 14th Sept, 2.30pm: Phonics meeting for parents

Saturday 18th September- PTA Fair

Tuesday 28th September- Author virtual visit

Thursday 7th October- Prospective new parent tours

22nd Oct: School closes for Half Term Break

1st Nov: School opens after Half Term Break

Please see [Term Dates - Eaton Bray Academy](#) for later dates.



Happy, Inspired, Lifelong Learners

Outdoor Areas

We are extremely pleased to share images of our updated outdoor areas for pre-school, Reception and Year 1.

Over the summer we were lucky to be able to get a new canopy through funding. This has allowed for more outdoor learning in all weathers and the children are already enjoying the benefits of this.

Over the summer thanks to the hard work of many staff and volunteers we have also created a new outdoor area for our children in Reception and Year 1 (including a covered area) which is already being very well used. This means that the children are now able to flow more freely to outdoor learning, which we believe will have a positive impact on their experience in school.

We are pleased that many of our parents got to see the classrooms ready for the new school year. In case you weren't able to get in and see your classroom I have attached a selection of photos for you to see inside the school.

We have also been pleased to see some of our classes returning to our library. The children have been happy to choose books and explore- it has been brilliant to see the excitement on their faces! Please remember to bring library books back each week.





Happy, Inspired, Lifelong Learners



Phonics

Phonics lessons across the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 are already underway this term. These lessons are the foundations for our children learning to read and are hugely important. We would like to help all parents, and especially our parents with children in Reception, to understand how and why we teach phonics at school and how this might help you at home. We would like to invite all parents to a **meeting on Tuesday 21st (previously 14th) September** where we will explain how phonics works in school and offer an opportunity for you to ask questions.

Reading

Over the next week class teachers will hear the children read and will help them to select a reading book that they will bring home. It is very important that children spend about 20 minutes every day reading or sharing stories. Please encourage this so that good habits are set early. GoRead is the app used to record reading both at home and at school. The log in details have not changed from last year but if you need reminding of these please notify your child's teacher who will be able to assist you. Children in Reception will begin bringing books home that can be read to them and enjoyed at home. They will not bring home books that they are expected to read for themselves until they have enough phonetic knowledge to do so.

Do look out for letters from our PTA who launch their Sponsored Reading Week on Monday.

First Aid Day

On Monday, following world first aid day we will be discussing and learning first aid in classrooms across the school.

First aid is an important skill for all children to learn, from knowing who to contact in an emergency for our youngest children, to more advanced skills for our oldest. We hope that these are skills that the children will never need to use, but equally we know the importance of being prepared.



Happy, Inspired, Lifelong Learners

Individual Photos

Individual photos will be taking place on Monday. If your child normally has PE on this day please send them in their uniform and bring their PE kit, just for this day. We will also be organising sibling photos this year.

If your child is in Hamsters class and will not be in on Monday morning then you can bring them at 9am for a photo, but will need to stay with them for this time.

PTA Fun Day

A message from Tania Cornish, EBA PTA Chair:

Sadly, due to the rise of Covid cases in our school community, the EBA PTA committee has taken the decision to postpone the Family Fun Day on 18th September 2021.

We were really looking forward to everyone being able to spend some time celebrating and welcoming all of our new children and parents into our community. However, we feel it is our duty to protect our volunteers, stall holders, the school and wider community and support the school by doing our bit to help not further the spread.

Never fear, all of our hard work isn't in vain, it's just on hold for the time being and we hope to be able to bring you an even bigger and better celebration when the time is right.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Vanessa Cook and Jenny Betts for all of their hard work in helping me plan this event over the summer break.

