

Headteacher's Newsletter No 43

24/3/16

Sport

Well done to the football team who reached the semi-finals of the minor cup but couldn't quite make the final. They have one friendly fixture remaining in April.

There will be a tournament for the year 5s taking place in May.

The girls' football team have now finished their league competition and whilst we await confirmation of final places, we have definitely secured a top half finish out of the 13 schools taking part. Even more pleasing from my point of view has been the way all the girls have improved their skills during the season. They have two more tournaments to play.

Leigh Academies Trust

We are working closely with the other schools in the trust, particularly the primaries. One of them, Hartley Primary Academy, recently had an Ofsted inspection as a result of which they were graded "Outstanding" in every category. This is very encouraging as Hartley were the first primary school to join the trust and their success demonstrates that we are in a family of schools with a strong record of school improvement. We are involved in a number of programmes with the trust and are benefitting from support, for example, from the academies improvement team, who are providing us with an extra teacher two mornings a week to work with our year 6 children.

Our year 3 children were transported across to Stationers Crown Woods Academy earlier this week to share a poetry morning with a year 7 class. It gave our children the chance to write and perform poems, which they nearly all did, working with older children. It also gave them a glimpse of a "big school" and so began to pave the way for their transition in a few years time.

Progress

It was good to see so many parents at our open evening. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to look at the excellent work your children have been doing so as to see their achievements during the year so far, and talking to their teachers who, as always, have worked so hard in the best interests of our pupils. We want to ensure that you as parents get all the information you need regarding your children's time in school and their progress, so if there is anything else you think we could do to keep you informed, please let us know.

When we carried out our assessments recently, we were pleased to see that right across the school, the great majority of our children are making the progress expected of them and better. This is because of the combination of high quality teaching and support they get at Eastcote, the positive attitudes and excellent behaviour of the children both in and out of the classroom and the support of parents.

House-points

We continue with our termly, inter-house house-point competition. House-points are awarded for a range of reasons, for example, good manners, taking the initiative, being supportive of others. The aim is that these kinds of behaviours become the norm and that as children grow older, they act in these ways not just to get a reward but because they understand that this is quite simply, what is expected of everyone. This term, the house winning the most house-points are:

Bears

Office

Both Mrs Smith and Mrs Kinghan were out of the office on Monday and Tuesday to attend a training course. A big thank you to all the support staff who stepped in to “man” the office during those days and to parents for respecting the fact that we wouldn’t be able to deal with a lot of issues.

Not that we really needed reminding, but being without our office staff demonstrated what a huge and important job they have and just how difficult it can be. I know that parents really appreciate all that Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Kinghan do to ensure the smooth running of the school and that when they come to the office they are always dealt with by these ladies so efficiently and pleasantly.

I trust you will all have a good holiday - let’s hope for some decent sunshine!

