



Newsletter



website:-
www.easternprimary.co.uk

email:-
easternprimary@npt.school

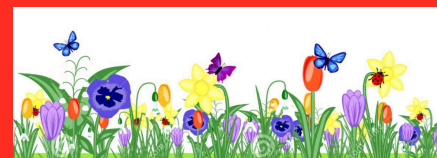
Tel. 01639 882819

Twitter:-
[EasternPrimary @SchoolEastern](https://twitter.com/SchoolEastern)

Facebook
[Eastern Primary](https://www.facebook.com/EasternPrimary)



Spring! 3/4/20



Let's think of the NOW

I have just read through the contents of the last newsletter sent out to you all. It now all seems so irrelevant! Absolutely everything is different! What's happening now has reset us all I believe. It's given us an opportunity to take stock of what is important in our lives. Our loved ones are precious and we need them close right now. Nothing could have prepared us for what we are going through and the amount of support, encouragement, help, and gratitude within our communities is outstanding. We are all here for each other and that has been such a strong energy amongst us all, parents, pupils, staff, governors, community, local authority.... everyone has pulled together and it has been heart warming. We send our sincere sympathies out to all the families that have suffered loss. Losing our loved ones is unbearable at times and I shudder to think of how loss at these times can be managed, it's a very cruel virus indeed. Our prayers and thoughts to all.

Thinking of the now, your families, loved ones and friends are precious. Hold them tight, have fun with each other, laugh so much the tears roll, take time, listen, radiate your love and care, and appreciate each other more and more. What is happening now has to bring positives to our world also and I am sure that we will all learn from these moments. We are certainly focused on what is now important, what's not and what can wait!

So what's been happening since we closed?

Just a few small adjustments!!!

- We are now providing child care for families who are working in jobs that are essential for our people and front line.
- We deliver food to families in the community
- We provide home school learning for 185 children
- We have opened communication lines for support and help for families
- We have produced support packages for families and children within our community

So we've been a little busy I have to say!

Easter Bonnet Parade

That's in the calendar for today! So come on, get those bonnets out, put some music on and parade around the garden, in the house and on the front doorstep. Put your pictures and videos onto Twitter and Facebook for us all to see. FaceTime your families to show them and have some fun. Share them with us so we can have a virtual Easter bonnet parade. Maybe we could put them all together to send out to our community for others to enjoy too!

National Tests

They were planned for after the Easter holidays!! One word there

DELETE

Yeyyyy!

Just thinking.... can you imagine having to sit a test at home???? Ooo nooooo, blurrrr! Yuk.

Photographs

The photographer was supposed to be in school this week. So let's dress up and put some pics on our Facebook page and Twitter. Or send them through your class pages if you are using these with teachers.

Year 6

You may be wondering what will happen with these children now as we don't even know if school will be back before September. Just to let you know, we have already started these discussions with Ysgol Cwm Brombil and ideas are starting to be compiled. Please put your children's minds at rest. They won't be forgotten and when we have some idea of when school returns we will ensure that they meet up with friends, see teachers, have their parties, have their visits and we will ensure that they will be well and truly looked after! What we will appreciate, when the time gets closer, is to speak with the children to see what's important for them and be able to answer any questions they may have. Not yet though, it's enough to just think of today at the moment. Today is important.

Home Learning

We have heard lots of different stories about how this is going. There are good days there are bad days. Sometimes they will work and then they won't. Sometimes it's fun and then sometimes it's not! There's all sorts happening so you are not alone. Please don't fret and worry. Our staff have spent years training for this job and then you were thrust into it within days! The biggest tip we can give is just enjoy being with the children and they will lead you into their learning world. We learn a lot from children and we have to adjust our teaching according to each and every individual. No child is the same and it takes a lot of practise to find your way. Children don't come with instruction books remember! As this is our job please take advantage of the help that staff are offering. There may be times when they can't help, but they will find somebody who can. There is a wealth of support out there for you, just start talking to each other and ask questions, you will pick up hints and tricks that you too can then pass on.

We sent out some support packs for helping parents with home learning. It will be attached to one of the texts we sent out. If you cannot find it or haven't

What's happening for the Easter holidays?

Child care provision for essential workers will continue to be provided. However, the LEA decided to place this provision for ALL our local schools at Ysgol Cwm Brombil. We This decision was a local authority decision. All arrangements have been made by the local authority. Children who need child care will attend this building and each school will have an allocated room. Two members of staff from each of the local schools will supervise the children at this site. We have not yet been told if this will continue after Easter.

Pupils entitled to free school meals will not be provided with food bags over the holiday but payments will go directly into parents bank accounts for parents to have enough money for food during this difficult time. Again, this is a decision from local authority.

All parents of pupils received a letter from the local authority today regarding the free school meals payment into your bank accounts.

Cleaning and catering

I'd like to say a massive thank you to everyone involved in the cleaning of the school and also the grab and go food bags. It took a huge amount of organisation from the the local authority right through to organising getting the bags out. On the first day only one family collected their food bag so our own school staff volunteered their own time to deliver 80 bags using their own cars! They came to the rescue yet again. The kitchen staff have worked tirelessly at the school ensuring food preparation and packaging was all adhering to the public health rules. Thank you staff! The cleaning department at the LEA have also been tremendous ensuring the building was as safe as possible for all. The staff themselves became cleaners to help out to ensure everyone was safe. It's been exhausting for all but well worth it.

A massive, massive thank you to ALL the staff at school who have worked so hard throughout the last two weeks! They have been absolutely amazing. We have had some very tricky moments but as they work so well as a team we have provided solutions for everything. We are working in a completely different way and it feels like a completely different job at the moment. Their care for your children is truly outstanding! Well done all and a big clap for 'Team Eastern'. Governors have checked in to ensure all our staff are fit and well and we have been very focused on their emotional well being also. What they are doing for the community is amazing and yet they have the same worries and concerns as we all do. They have to keep themselves and their families safe at all times too. We have had so many questions and we have tried our very best to answer them all. One thing we have learned in all this, there is no right and there is no wrong, but we make the best decisions we can for the children, their families and each other.

THANK YOU PARENTS AND CARERS

We are sure that you will agree with us all. The positivity that surrounds everyone at the moment is amazing. All our parents and carers have worked together in the best way we can. We have been there for each other. Thank you all for your messages to staff and your comments of appreciation. It's what matters. It's the small things in life that make a difference. You really have been very supportive in what is a difficult time working from home and trying to teach your children! We understand it as many of our staff are in the exact same position. We are here to help

HAVE A GREAT EASTER. STAY HAPPY. STAY SAFE. WE WILL BE BACK.



