



Newsletter

January 2017

Spring Term 2017



What a busy term this has been so far. With just under two weeks left of this half term, there is still lots happening in school!
Check the diary dates for forthcoming events.

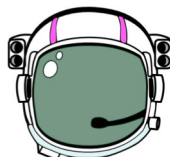
Tim Peake -Train Like an Astronaut Project

The Year 5/6 classes have now begun the Tim Peake Project. They have 15 missions to complete in total, across three different levels.

So far they have carried out investigations into why astronauts need great hand-eye co-ordination, and why agility and balance are important in space.

They keep a weekly blog via the official 'Train Like an Astronaut' website, and you can follow them here:

<http://trainlikeanastronaut.org/>



Important reminders

We would like to remind parents that if your child is not coming to school, or will be coming in late, you must ring the school office **by 9am** to inform us. This is school policy but some parents aren't following it which means staff are having to make unnecessary telephone calls. Remember there is someone answering the telephone from 8am onwards. Can we also remind you that, in the unlikely event of the school being closed due to bad weather, we will contact you via Parentmail. Please avoid ringing the school office as we need to keep the lines free for staff and pupil absences. Thank you for your continued support.

We're supporting

NSPCC

Thank you so much to all of our families for supporting the Christmas Jumper / Tuck Shop day on Friday 16th December.

We raised an incredible £534.31 for the NSPCC.

Thank you for your generosity.

Premier League Trophy

We are all excited that the Premier League Trophy will be in school on Wednesday 1st February. All children can be photographed with it and they can also wear LCFC shirts or blue clothing for the day.

What's happening this term?



School Uniform on Sale

Monday 6th February
11.30am—11.45am (FS)
3pm—3.30pm (Main Entrance)

Educational Visits & Events

Wednesday 1st February—Premiership Trophy in school

Wednesday 1st February—Year 6 Red Cross First Aid session

Monday 6th February—Year 5/6 Mayan workshops

Wednesday 8th February—Year 1/2 Yoga sessions

Mon 21st & Tues 22nd February—Year 5/6 Macbeth workshops

w/c 27th February—Book Week

Wednesday 1st March—F2 visit to Swithland Woods

Wednesday 1st March—Class SV open assembly

Thursday 2nd March—World Book Day / Roving Book fayre

Tuesday 28th March at 9.30am and Wednesday 29th March at 2.15pm—Year 1/2 Performance

Parents' Evenings

Tuesday 7th February

3.30pm –5pm

Thursday 9th February

3.30pm—7pm

February Half Term Break

Monday 13th February—Friday 17th February inclusive.

Please see the website for all term dates.

GOVERNOR INTERVIEW

Each month we will be asking one of the School Governors to tell us a little about themselves so that parents can learn a bit more about the Governing Body. This month it's our Chair of Governors, Hameeda Sidat.



Type of Governor: *Parent Governor (I'm a working mum of 3) and also Chair of Governors*
How long have you been a Governor at EVPS? *4 years. I was elected in December 2013 and became Chair in November 2016.*

What made you want to become a Governor at EVPS? *I have been volunteering at the school for over 8 years and wanted to be a part of the school to help towards a better future and to give back to the community.*

What work have you done with the school / children during your time as a Governor at EVPS? *I regularly attend Governor meetings and training sessions which help me to use my skills to the school's advantage. I have also been part of recruitment panels, carried out weekly reading sessions with the children and attended various school assemblies and performances. I have participated during Book Day events, assisted with Sports Days and fundraising events (most recently the Macmillan Cake Sale and NCPCC tuck shop). Last year I also had the pleasure of working with the pupils on the construction of the African Keyhole garden.*

What do you think the school has improved during your time as a Governor at EVPS? *EVPS has worked hard to achieve several awards whilst I've been a Governor at the school— credit goes to the hard working staff and the determination and efforts from the children too. The awards include the Anti-Bullying Community Award, and the Green School award. The difference in behaviour and work ethos has been a pleasure to see, along with attendance and the interaction within classrooms and the playground which prove that we are working well together.*

The pupils, staff and community at EVPS are amazing and make working with them a pleasure. I hope I can help maintain and encourage continued progress in keeping EVPS a happy, safe and welcoming environment to all.

Get into Teaching- your future, their future!

As a school we are delighted to work in partnership with the Leicester and Leicestershire SCITT, an outstanding teacher training provider.

The SCITT is currently recruiting for a one year PGCE programme starting in September 2017 and they would welcome enquiries from high quality graduates.

Please see the school website for details or pick up a flyer in the school reception.



BOOK WEEK

This year, Book Week will take place from Monday 27th February—Friday 3rd March.

There will be lots of exciting events taking place during the week including sessions when parents will be invited into school to read with their children.

There will also be a book fair in the Drama Hall on World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March.

Watch out for more details nearer the time.



Let's Work Together To Improve Attendance!

At the end of 2016 the national average attendance rate for primary schools was 96.1%. The average attendance rate for Evington Valley was 94.6% at the end of 2016, and is currently 94.1%

The national average for the percentage of pupils who were absent for 10% or more (persistent absentees—PA) sessions was 8.8%, while Evington Valley was unacceptable at 15.1%.

When the pupils are doing so well in the end of FS, end of KS1 and end of KS2 results it is disappointing that the attendance, PA figures and punctuality of pupils at Evington Valley remains such a concern. Good attendance is very clearly linked to good attainment so we will be having a new push on both attendance and punctuality to support our drive to raise standards further—look out for the details of the incentives that will be put into place after the February half term break.

Nelson Mandela famously said

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”
so help your child make the most of their education and get them to school every day!