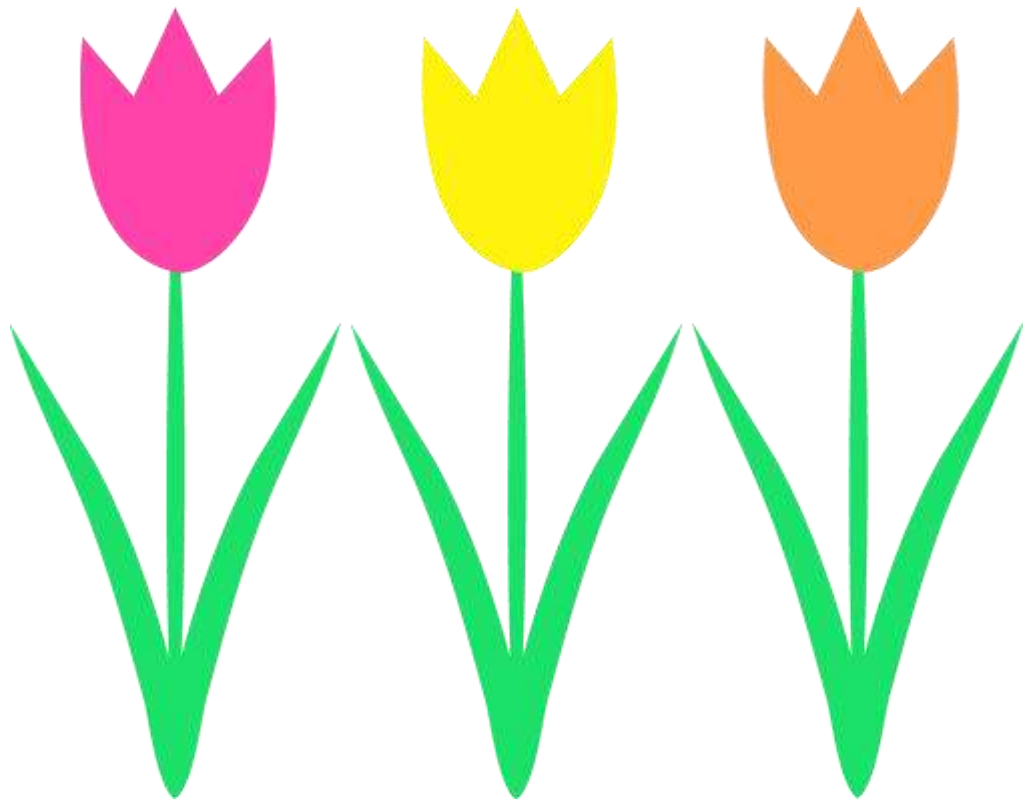


**EASTCOURT SCHOOL
and
THE OAKS ACTIVITY CENTRE
NEWSLETTER**



SPRING 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Christmas holiday. I hope you all enjoyed the break and relaxed with family and friends.

Screening sessions for next year's Reception classes took place as usual and offers have been sent out.

We are delighted that the popularity of our pre-school has increased year on year. Thank you all for your help in spreading the word. We now employ more staff and cater for more children with healthy waiting lists for the foreseeable future – well done to everyone involved. The Oaks Christmas Holiday Club was oversubscribed. Do check for details of clubs this term and book your place if you are interested in the half term or Easter sessions.

Children are offered places at Stepping Stones each month as they can join us the month after their second birthday, so if your child will be two in the coming months do speak to Jane. It is never too early to register at The Oaks or Eastcourt. We do not charge for this service.

We have been asked to run a family workshop for Reception. This will be on Wednesday 7th February and give ideas for numeracy, literacy and knowledge and understanding of the world. If you have any suggestions of workshops or other ways we can help you, don't forget to let us know.

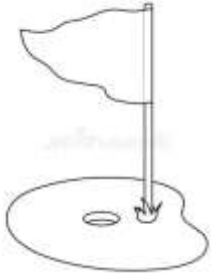
Eastcourt's next Open Day will be on 10th March. At this time the offers of secondary school places in both state and independent schools will have been made. Prospective parents/carers are welcome to come along between 10am and 12 noon to meet the staff and view some of our pupils' work. It is also a chance for you to see where your child is heading next year and beyond, looking at the achievements of Year 6 in 2018 and finding out more about how you can help in this preparation. (It starts from the moment children join us and moves steadily towards the final exams.)

Please spread the word about this event to anyone who may be interested, and remember it is a time for you, your family and friends to come along too.

Here's to a happy and successful 2018! In particular we wish Year 6 luck in their public school examinations this half term.

Christine Redgrave

Mrs C Redgrave



Eastcourt Golf Society



Did you make any New Year's Resolutions?

Perhaps they included getting fitter.
Could joining the Eastcourt Golf Society be the way forward?



This society was started many years ago, in 1991, by the Parents' Association. It has continued to meet five times a year (March – July) at different golf courses, mostly in Essex. Costs range between £40 and £60 per day and players of all levels are welcome.

To find out more contact Brian Murphy brianmurphy@talktalk.net
(Past parent).

2018 SPRING YEAR PLANNER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

SAT							
SUN						1	Speech Exam
MON	1					2	
TUES	2					3	
WED	3					4	
THURS	4		1		1	World Book Day Rec, Y1 & Y2 Perform for Schools Planet Saturn	5
FRI	5		2		2		6
SAT	6		3		3		7
SUN	7		4		4		8
MON	8		5	Fosters Schoolwear	5		9
TUES	9		6		6		10
WED	10		7	Rec – Family Workshop	7	Y6 - Portals to the Past - Greeks	11
THURS	11		8	Y2 Rainforest Workshop	8	Y1 Mothers Day Assembly	12
FRI	12		9	<u>Links Assembly</u> Break for Half Term 4:00 Friends of Eastcourt Meeting	9		13
SAT	13		10		10	Open Day	14
SUN	14		11		11		15
MON	15	Braiswick - <u>Class Photos</u> Fosters <u>Schoolwear</u> Rec - <u>Firefighters</u> Say No to Bullying week	12		12	Fosters Schoolwear	Summer Term begins
TUES	16		13		13		17
WED	17	Pantomime	14		14		18
THURS	18		15		15	Rec - Friendship <u>Assembly</u> Y5 - Debden Brook	19
FRI	19		16		16	Easter coffee morning	20
SAT	20		17		17		21
SUN	21		18		18		22
MON	22		19		19	Y3 St Albans	Fosters Schoolwear
TUES	23		20		20		24
WED	24		21		21	Music Recital	25
THURS	25		22		22		26
FRI	26		23		23	Sports Relief Coffee Morning Break for Easter 12:00 noon	27
SAT	27		24		24		28
SUN	28		25		25		29
MON	29		26		26		30
TUES	30		27		27		
WED	31		28		28		
THURS					29		
FRI					30		
SAT					31		

Some visits/visitors TBC

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15th January	Class / Group Photographs
8th February	Friends of Eastcourt Meeting - 4:00pm
9th February	Links Assembly (Whole School)
9th February	Break for Half-Term at 3:30pm
12th - 16th February	Activity Week at the Oaks Activity Centre
19th February	Return to school
1st March	World Book Day at 11am (Year 3)
8th March	Mothers Day Assembly (Year 1)
10th March	Open Day - Eastcourt
15th March	Friendship Assembly (Reception)
20th March	Easter Competitions deadline (Whole School)
21st March	Music Recital - 4:00pm
23rd March	Sports Relief Coffee Morning - 8:15am
23rd March	Easter Assembly
23rd March	Break for Easter at 12 noon
26th March – 13th April	Activity Weeks at The Oaks (excluding Bank holiday)



LUNCHTIME MUSIC LESSONS AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We are pleased to be able to offer private piano, guitar and violin lessons for anyone wishing to learn a new instrument.

Child's name _____ Class : _____

My child would like to be considered for the following clubs/activities :

Piano

Choir

Guitar

Run for Fun

Speech & Communication

Eastcourt School of Performing Arts

Table Tennis

Judo

After-School Activities

Reception to Year 6

The Oaks Activity Centre

Collier Row Road, Romford, Essex RM5 2DD

email: oaksactivitycentre@btconnect.com

Telephone for more details on 0208 597 9171



Staying active

To add your name to the waiting lists please tick the relevant box (es)

After school sessions include transport to The Oaks, evening meal, homework club and 1 hour activity session - only £15



AFTER-SCHOOL AT THE OAKS CENTRE

Child's name _____ Class _____

Parent's name _____

Telephone/Contact number _____

Email: _____

Please place my child on the waiting list for the following evening(s):

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday
Drama Cookery Keep Fit Art Club Dance



**MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND HAVE
FUN, FUN, FUN!**

The Oaks Activity Centre

Holiday Clubs



Our Christmas Activity Week was very busy. It was good to see old and new faces both from Eastcourt and the local area. Children joined Stepping Stones to perform 'Angel Express', enjoyed dance/drama, team games, cookery, art & craft, sports and had their own Christmas Party.

If your child would like to join us during the half term or Easter holiday please complete and return the slip below to the school office.
Places will be limited and early booking is advised.



Child's name _____

Class _____

Parent's name _____

Contact number _____

I am interested in my child joining The Oaks Activity Centre at half term:



12th 13th 14th 15th 16th

I am interested in my child joining at Easter (26th March -13th April)

26th 27th 28th 29th 3rd 4th 5th 6th

9th 10th 11th 12th 13th

I am interested in transport from Eastcourt at 8am

I am interested in transport to Eastcourt at 3.30pm

I would like my child to have hot lunch




An application, menu and invoice will follow.



Stepping Stones Pre-school at The Oaks Activity Centre



☆ The Oaks is now offering places for 2 year olds ☆

 Our setting is perfect for young children to explore and grow in beautiful surroundings. The all-weather astro pitch and extensive gardens are perfect for physical play. Our allotment areas give us opportunities to grow our own fruit and vegetables, understanding the world around us.

PLUS

- Specialist teachers offer an exciting Early Years curriculum
- Literacy, numeracy and reading activities each day
- Small language and communication groups boost confidence
- Weekly dance and drama sessions build self-esteem



Art Studio



Multi-purpose Gym



Games Room



The Den



Gardens & Allotment



Dance Studio

✂-----

I would like to know more about The Oaks Pre-School. Please send me a prospectus.

Pre-school child's name _____ Dob _____

Child's name _____ Class _____
(currently attending Eastcourt)

Contact number _____



FRIENDS OF EASTCOURT

HELPING YOUR CHILDREN



Friends of Eastcourt is always looking for new members and new ideas.

We usually hold one meeting each term and everyone is welcome.

Our meetings are very informal. We sit down, have a chat and discuss ideas for future fundraising events.

Next Meeting– 9th February 2018 – 4:00pm
.....

If you are unable to attend our meeting but would like to help please return the slip below to the school office.

Child's name Class

Please contact me so that I may be able to help with the following events
(this will not necessarily be with my child's class):

Outings
Film Show

Classroom activities
Raffles

New ideas (please state)

Parent's name Contact number

Another way we work together

Eastcourt Links

Our theme this term is "our community", promoting tolerance and understanding of one another to build happy schools, homes and local communities. There will be a 'say no to bullying' week (15th – 18th January) as part of our work this term.

CAR SHARING

If you are interested in car-sharing, we would like to publish details so that others in your area can get in touch. Please therefore complete and detach the slip below, returning to the office as soon as possible. Fewer cars would ease the congestion.

I am interested in car-sharing and would like to be contacted by others who live nearby to arrange something convenient.

Name _____

My child is in Year _____, _____ 's class
(Name of Teacher)

My address is _____

and I can be contacted on _____
(Telephone / Mobile No)

Eastcourt Links – Our Community/Say No to Bullying

At present there is much national concern about bullying, including in particular the 'new' problem of cyber-bullying, and how to prevent it.

As part of our work to develop all children's' social, emotional and behavioural skills, we discuss these issues every year. This year we are highlighting these lessons to you, holding a special focus time (15th -19th January) when the whole school will be thinking about how to make sure we know what bullying is and how to act when we see or experience it. Children will often fall out with friends or say or do unkind things when they are angry, but not all unkind behaviour is bullying. The key differences are

- It is repeated and goes on over time
- It is deliberate and not accidental
- The bully has some sort of power over the person being bullied.

We will be hosting our termly Links Assembly on 9th February and invite you to join us.

In addition to this we are organizing some competitions for you to share, talk about and enjoy at home.

Lastly we are inviting you to a cyber-bullying awareness talk being hosted by local Police Officers. It is hoped this will be of interest to everyone with a computer/mobile phone that their child uses or will soon use.



Eastcourt Links Competitions



We hope you will all enjoy our 'Say No to Bullying' activities, which we would like you to share at home. Bring your ideas to school for your teachers to see. They are going to talk about them at staff meetings and we will make a few available on our website.

Humpty Dumpty

Stepping Stones and Reception

Humpty Dumpty was sad because he couldn't go to the party – he wasn't included in the King's group. He went to sit on the wall to be on his own. How do you think he felt then? Have you ever felt left out like Humpty Dumpty?

Stepping Stones – Could you draw a picture of Humpty Dumpty?

Reception – Could you draw a picture of Humpty Dumpty and describe how he was feeling?

Cinderella

Years 1 - 4

In this story the actions of the stepmother and stepsisters result in Cinderella being treated unfairly. How would you feel if you were Cinderella? Why do you think the stepmother and stepsisters behaved like they did? What could you do to help Cinderella?

Year 1: Write a letter to persuade the stepsisters or stepmother to stop behaving like this.

Year 2: Write a letter like Year 1 but consider the fact that the characters you are writing to may not think they are being unfair.

Years 3/4: You are an agony aunt. You have received this letter from Cinderella. How would you reply?

Dear Agony Aunt,

I am very unhappy. My evil stepmother makes me do all the household chores while my two selfish stepsisters live their lives enjoying themselves and ordering me about.

I am forced to do all the housework - cooking, washing, ironing and anything else they demand. I have to wear rags while they have expensive dresses. I want to lead a normal life and be happy.

Please can you help me.

Cinderella

Years 5/6

Younger children have used familiar rhymes and stories and linked them to our bullying theme. Can you relate these stories to a situation or story of your own? Write a letter to an agony aunt and the reply.



PARENT INVITATIONS



We are organising a number of whole-school assemblies and gatherings which you are most welcome to attend. The number we can accommodate is limited, and so you are asked to indicate if you wish to attend. There is no charge but a "pass" will be issued. Each event will start at approximately 9:10 am except World Book Day and will be no longer than 30 minutes.

Friendship Assembly 15th March (Reception)
Name : _____ Class : _____ No. attending _____

✂ _____
Eastcourt Links Assembly 9th February (Whole School)

Name : _____ Class : _____ No. attending _____

✂ _____

World Book Day Assembly 1st March
Name : _____ Class : _____ No. attending _____

✂ _____

Mothers' Day Assembly 8th March (Year 1)
Name : _____ Class : _____ No. attending _____

✂ _____

Music Recital 21st March
Name : _____ Class : _____ No. attending _____

✂ _____

Easter Assembly 23rd March
Name : _____ Class : _____ No. attending _____



CAN YOU HELP?

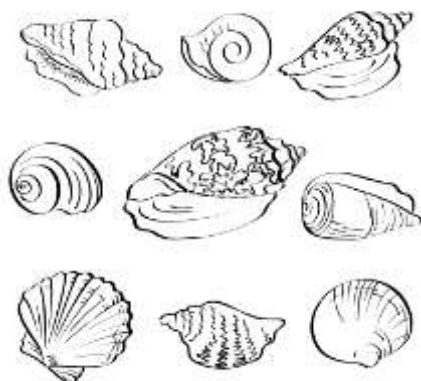
WE ARE STILL COLLECTING

All Supermarket vouchers
Box Tops for Books

Yoghurt and other small plastic pots
Shoe boxes and egg boxes
Unwanted or damaged CDs
Disused mobile phones (for role-play)
Buttons, Ribbons, Material
Cones - pebbles - shells
Used Christmas/other cards
Newspaper

Second hand uniform (Eastcourt or The Oaks) that your child has grown out of.

Donations of games/books/toys/CDs/DVDs (in good condition).
Multicultural clothes, again that your child has grown out of, for role-play.



Thank you

