Newsletter

Mrs Warrington - HeadTeacher

"Exploring, learning, and growing together—one day, one lesson, and one success at a time!"

Eastlands Primary School *May 2026*

Thrive. Belong. Achieve.

Welcome back to our Newsletter! As we wrap up this fantastic first half of the Summer term, it is the perfect time to reflect on our school's core mission of "Empowering and preparing our children for success in a changing world." We do this by ensuring every single child has the opportunity to **thrive, belong and achieve**. Through our comprehensive curriculum coverage and personal development programme, we have worked hard to create an environment where pupils feel valued and connected, allowing them to step outside the classroom and build vital life skills.

Our commitment to helping children **thrive** was brought to life through a series of incredible school trips this half term. Our youngest learners in Nursery and Reception visited West Lodge Farm in Northamptonshire, exploring animal habitats, learning about dietary needs, and confidently touching and feeding the animals with the guidance of expert farmers. Year 2 extended this journey at Orchard Farm in Yelvertoft, deepening their understanding of where food comes from and discovering what modern British farming looks like. These rich, hands-on experiences provided the perfect foundation for our pupils to connect with the world around them.

When children truly feel they belong, they find the confidence to take on new challenges and achieve great things. This term, our older children demonstrated immense personal growth during their residential trips. Year 4 immersed themselves in history during a brilliant two-day residential to York to enhance their Viking topic, while Year 6 pushed their boundaries during an adventurous four-day residential to Skern in Appledore, tackling outdoor activities that built teamwork and resilience. A huge thank you goes to all of our dedicated staff members, whose time, care and efforts made these unforgettable experiences possible.

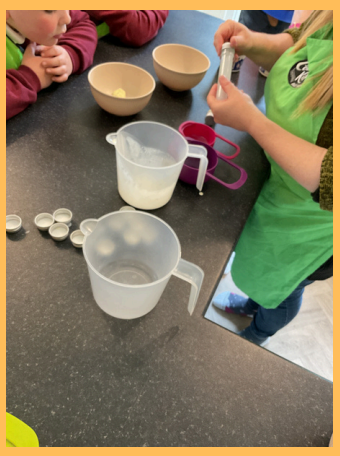
We wanted to share with you some of the highlights and photos from these amazing experiences.

Reception Class Visit to a farm

Reception class were lucky to have the opportunity to visit West Lodge Farm in Northamptonshire. This visit supported the children's topic surrounding our learning about farms. The farm had a variety of animals and the children learned about their habitats, what they eat and were able to touch and feed the animals if they wanted to!
We were supported by members of the farm team who had extensive knowledge about the animals they keep.

Year 2 - Where does our food come from?

The Year 2 children had a wonderful school trip to the farm, where they enjoyed a range of exciting and hands-on activities. They explored a wormery and were fascinated to discover wriggly worms beneath the soil. Throughout the day, they learnt about British farming and took part in fun games that helped them remember important farming facts. The children also planted their own pea seeds and worked together to make and bake bread and butter. They represented the school brilliantly, showing excellent manners and politeness and were praised for their respectful behaviour.



Year 4 Residential to York

Year 4 had a fantastic trip to York, bringing their learning about the Vikings to life with an exciting visit to the JORVIK Viking Centre. They also explored the awe-inspiring York Minster, where they learned about its history and significance. There was certainly lots of walking involved, but the children thoroughly enjoyed spending time with their friends and making lasting memories together.

Year 4's behaviour and manners were excellent throughout the trip, and although they were very tired on the journey home, they represented the school brilliantly. We are incredibly proud of them all!
Thank you to the school staff who made this trip possible with out you we can not make these trips possible.

Year 6 - Skern Residential

Year 6 have just returned from an unforgettable four-day residential trip to Skern Lodge in Appledore, North Devon, where they conquered new challenges and created lifelong memories.

From the moment they arrived, the action never stopped. The children threw themselves into a packed schedule of outdoor and adventurous pursuits including: surfing, kayaking, tunnelling, zip line, climbing and abseiling, high ropes, assault course and archery. Every activity pushed them out of their comfort zones, but with the fantastic support of their instructors and peers, every single child met their personal goals. We definitely have some budding surfers, climbers and eagle-eyed archers amongst our talented year group!

Beyond the thrilling activities, the trip was defined by incredible fun, laughter, and camaraderie. The children's behaviour was absolutely fantastic throughout the week; they represented our school with immense pride, kindness, and maturity. In fact, enthusiasm was so high that many did not want to leave when the coach pulled up on the final day!

An enormous thank you goes to the dedicated school staff who gave up their weekend and personal time to accompany the children, ensuring everyone stayed safe, happy and fully supported. This brilliant adventure would not have been possible without your commitment.

The Skern.

Half term is coming.

As we edge closer to the half term, the Met Office has issued a yellow heat-health alert warning of increased temperatures that may cause indoor environments to become very warm. While we all welcome the sunshine, the warmer weather brings serious risks, particularly to vulnerable individuals. Please be aware that water-related incidents can increase during warm spells, carrying severe risks from cold-water shock and drowning. We want all of our families to enjoy a wonderful, safe break, so please take extra care as the temperatures rise.

This checklist can help you to keep your children safe and comfortable in the heat:

- Apply high-factor sunscreen before leaving the house and pack a bottle if you go out.
- Provide a wide-brimmed sun hat to protect your child's face and neck.

- Ensure access to water so your child stays properly hydrated.

- Dress children in lightweight, light-coloured clothing to help them stay cool.
- Avoid outdoor activities during peak heat, typically between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm.

- Supervise all swimming and water play closely, keeping a watchful eye at all times.

With more time spent indoors out of the midday sun, many children may spend more time on digital devices. Online safety is vital, and it is very important we protect our children in the digital world. Please actively manage your child's screen time and use these essential safety steps:

- Set up strict parental controls on all internet router settings and individual devices.
- Keep screens in communal family rooms rather than allowing device use in bedrooms.
- **Check age ratings on games and apps**, ensuring they are strictly appropriate for under-11s.
- **Talk openly about online safety**, reminding them never to chat with people they do not know.
- **Monitor search histories and friend lists** regularly to see who they interact with online.

Mrs Vikmanis has developed and continually updates an online safety page on our website if you need support with your children and online safety. Please look at https://www.eastlandsprimaryschool.co.uk/Parents/Online-Safety/

Looking ahead, we are incredibly excited for our upcoming PSA Summer Fayre on Friday 5th June! Please take a moment to look through the various PSA notices that have been sent out recently for details on how you can get involved and support the school.

Have a wonderful, safe, and relaxing half-term holiday, and we look forward to seeing everyone back and refreshed for the final term of the academic year 2025-2026!