EBOR GARDENS Primary Academy

WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 13th December, 2024 - Issue 14

A Message from Mrs Wathen and Mr Spink

Good afternoon everyone.
This week the children enjoyed the pantomime on Monday. This is an annual event and our children really enjoy the performances - there was certainly lots of laughter and applause emanating from the hall. Year 5 have completed their Bikeability training this week and have enjoyed learning about the rules for riding a bike safely. We also enjoyed Christmas lunch on our Christmas Jumper day. Thank you for supporting our fundraising for Mission Christmas who have provided us with more than 400 presents for our children this year. Also, a massive thank you for your attendance at our annual Winter Fair. The hall was packed full of support and together we have raised over £400 which will go to supporting your children in school.
Next week is the last week of school for 2024 and it is going to be a busy one! Please see the letter attached below for all the performance times this week. We will keep our social media up to date with photographs.
We also sent a letter this week to inform you of our new rules for E-Scooters and Electric Bikes. They are no longer allowed on the school site. If you arrive to school on one, you must leave it outside of the school gate. Please also read the existing laws on the use of these vehicles to ensure you are remaining safe. The letter is attached below.
Please remember that school closes at 1pm on Friday next week. On this day there will be class parties and we are encouraging all children to come in festive clothes for the last day. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

N - 80%	RBT - 74%	RDO - 76%
1AD - 95%	1MM - 89%	2HW - 96%
2RK - 90%	3JH - 98%	3NB - 94%
4CS - 93%	4RM - 97%	5NP/LW - 97%
5HW - 94%	6FA - 98%	6LB - 93%

Whole School attendance this week is 92%.
We are aiming for 96%+

Biscuit Bears: 2HW, 3JH & 6FA

Extra Play (97%+): 3JH, 4RM & 6FA

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DIARY DATES

Tuesday 17th December 2024 - EYFS Christmas Performance
Wednesday 18th December 2024 - KS1 Christmas Performance
Thursday 19th December 2024 - KS2 Christmas Performances
See letter below

Friday 20th December 2024 - Christmas Class Parties
Friday 20th December 2024 - Non-Uniform/Festive Clothing
Friday 20th December 2024 - School closes for Christmas (1pm)
Tuesday 7th January 2025 - School reopens for Spring term

Road Safety

Keeping children safe near roads is vital. Road traffic injuries are the biggest cause of death among young people worldwide, and six children are killed or seriously injured on roads every day in the UK. Please see tips below to help keep children safe near roads.

Top tips

- Children under 8 should always hold a grown up's hand when walking near roads.
- Children under 8 should always cross roads with a grown up, at a safe crossing place.
- Until they are 150cm tall, all children should sit in a correctly sized and fitted child seat when travelling by car.
- Children under 10 should not cycle on roads, they should keep to cycle paths away from motorised traffic.
- Children should always wear a helmet when cycling to protect their head if they fall off.

EBOR GARDENS
Primary Academy

Friday 6th December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are well underway with Christmas preparations here at Ebor Gardens. Our first event is the **Pantomime** in school on **Monday 9th December**. The **Winter Fair** is taking place in the school hall on **Wednesday 11th December** at 3:15pm.

Thursday 12th December is also Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper day.

In the last week of this term we will be performing our Christmas productions in school. All performances will be in the school hall. Please see dates and times below:

Tuesday 17th December – Reception & Nursery (morning) Christmas Performance – 9:15am
Tuesday 17th December – Nursery (afternoon) Christmas Performance (in Nursery classroom)– 3:00pm
Wednesday 18th December – Year 1 Christmas Performance – 1:15 – 2:00pm
Wednesday 18th December – Year 2 Christmas Performance – 2:15pm – 3:00pm
Thursday 19th December – LKS2 (Years 3&4) Christmas Songs – 1:15 – 2:00pm
Thursday 19th December – UKS2 (Years 5&6) Christmas Songs – 2:15pm – 3:00pm

Please also remember that school will be **closing at 1:00pm** on **Friday 20th December**. Christmas parties will take in classrooms on this day too **so children can come to school in party clothes** if they wish.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our performances.

Kind regards,

Mr Lee Spink
Vice Principal

EBOR GARDENS
Primary Academy

Thursday 12th December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

E-Scooters/Electric Bikes

I am writing to you today with some information regarding E-Scooters and Electric Bikes. They move very quickly and this can be dangerous to children on the school playground before and after school. They also pose a fire risk if left on the school site. Therefore, I wanted to write to you to let you know that **from today, Electric Scooters and Electric Bikes are not to be on the school site at all**.

Here are some facts I would like you to know:

Privately owned **e-scooters** are illegal to use on public roads, pavements, or cycle lanes. They can only be used on private land with the landowner's permission.

Electrically assisted pedal cycles are allowed in public places if they meet the following criteria:

- The pedals can propel the bike
- The electric motor's power doesn't exceed a specified limit
- Electrical assistance cuts out when the vehicle reaches 15.5mph
- The rider is not under 14 years old

You must have the category Q entitlement on your driving licence and insurance to use an e-scooter. It must also be registered. Breaches of the law relating to motor vehicles may be criminal offences.

The staff who are on our gates both in the morning and on an afternoon, will be there to help remind any E-Scooter and Electric Bike users that **these vehicles cannot come onto the school site.**

Kind regards,

Mr Lee Spink
Vice Principal

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season

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Ofsted Outstanding Provider

EBOR GARDENS
Primary Academy

Community Pantry

With thanks to our charity partners, our Community Pantry is open to our families on Wednesdays at 2:30pm.

Due to demand our food is given on a first come, first served basis. Please only take one of each item that you need.

Contact the school office if you need support at another time: admin@eborgardensacademy.co.uk or speak to a member of the team.

EBOR GARDENS
Primary Academy

Reception Places for September 2025

The application dates for Reception places in Leeds for September 2025 are:

1st November 2024 -
Applications open
15th January 2025 -
Application deadline
16th April 2025 -
National Offer Day

For children born between 01.09.20 - 31.08.21

https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/apply-for-a-primary-school

Contact the school office if you need support with your application: admin@eborgardensacademy.co.uk or speak to a member of the team (0113 248 2750).