



Eastbury Community School

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9th February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a short but very active half term and we have lots to keep us busy for the rest of the spring term. On our return, we will be continuing our Values focus on Quality in February and our 'Super PE' Dance lessons also continue. We hope to perform our dances for you in the coming weeks. We will be celebrating World Book Day as a whole school on March 1st. The Reception classes will also work towards their production – it's another eventful half term!



During our E-safety week it has been brought to our attention that there is a major concern about a new online game app that we feel we have duty of care to urgently inform you about it.

ROBLOX

Roblox is an online platform where kids can create and interact in what its creators describe as "immersive 3D worlds." Players are given the chance to create an avatar (player) for themselves and assigned a small amount of digital money to rent a house. Money to decorate the house requires real world money, with costs adding up fast. A selection of different outfits are also available to purchase which is a huge attraction for many young children who want to make their avatar look as 'cool' as possible. Players who don't buy upgrades may be teased by other players and pressured into spending more. This game is being used by a number of primary age children and looks like a Lego game. However, there are major concerns about the safety of this game.

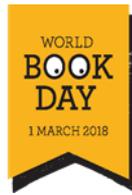
Furthermore, there is a messaging facility as part of the game where youngsters can be contacted by strangers. It has over 30 million users and the app states 'it is the best place to imagine with friends' but you have no way of knowing who you are communicating with. With limited safety our children are open prey for online predators to communicate with. The game invites players to explore imaginary worlds of all kinds. Some of these are sexual in nature.

Whilst we know that our parents at ECS are extremely vigilant, we could not ignore this latest game and strongly recommend that you all closely monitor what your children are accessing online.



We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England





#WORLDBOOKDAY

As you may know, Thursday 1st March is World Book Day. To celebrate this day your child will receive a £1 book token which can be redeemed in a range of shops.

Eastbury Community School Primary is keen to promote reading for pleasure and as such we are inviting students to dress as their favorite character from a book. We hope that this will help to create a buzz about books and reading around our school.

Please note **large hair accessories** are not suitable for school as they can be a health and safety risk.

We can also share some staff news with you. Our new Key Stage 1 Co-ordinator, Ms. Shahi Zohra will join us in April to work with our Year 1 and 2 pupils as they prepare for national assessments. We will also be appointing our new Deputy Head a few days into the next half term.

We wish you all a restful half term break,

Key Dates:-

Reception Height and weight check	26 th February
Road Safety Training	01 st March – Reception and Year 1 class's
Parents Eve	06 th & 08 th March 2018
Reception production	13 th March
Coffee morning 9am to 10am	19 th and 20 th March
Easter Break	30 th March – 13 th April – Return to school 16 th April

Don't forget, school closes at our normal time next Friday 9th February and reopens after half term on Monday 19th February.

Best regards,

Wendy Jenkins