

SCHOOL NEWS

Railway Safety | East Avenue Park | Etchells Community Exercise Track

Thank You!



We have really noticed an improvement with parking around school in the mornings and afternoons. Thank you for hearing our requests for safer parking, it really does make a difference!

East Avenue Park



We are aware that many families go to the park after school, especially on sunnier days. I would like to make a polite reminder, that after 3.15pm, the children are the responsibility of parents and not the school. Please be vigilant in your supervision and mindful of the current COVID-19 regulations: groups of six (including children) or two households mixing. We are currently working with our Community Police Officer to encourage the children to behave and conduct themselves responsibly in public places.

Etchells Community Exercise Track

As I mentioned in the Newsletter last week, we are currently planning to replace our wood chip path around the school field with an all-weather track which will also enable easier access to our log circle areas. We are having to raise a considerable amount of money for this and one route we are looking at is the National Lottery. In order to secure a grant this way, we have to ensure the facility can be used by the community.

We have a few ideas: one being that we open the track on certain days after school to allow families and community members to run, jog (or walk!) and safely get some exercise away from the roads and pavements.

We are also asking local Brownie/Cubs/Beaver groups if they would like to use the track or Forest School areas, perhaps once a term. Our Cycle Buddies friends may also make use of the track.

Do you have any other ideas or know of individuals or groups who would benefit from the facility? Please contact me with your thoughts either via the headteacher@etchells email address or on the survey form in the Parent Area of the school website. (This is now up and running after technical glitches last week.)

Your feedback is really important to us and could be vital in helping us to secure the funds needed. Thanks in advance.



Railway Safety



I have been contacted by the Community Safety Manager at Network Rail whose role it is to ensure people understand the dangers both on and near the railway, as well as spreading awareness of the far-reaching consequences of someone's decision to trespass on the railway.

They have informed me of the most recent incidents involving young people in our area:

05/04/2021 - 6 youths on the track between Heald Green and Gatley.

06/04/2021 - three youths by the access point near Heald Green station (on the public side of the fence when line examined)

13/04/2021 - Three youths on the embankment near Heald Green North

15/04/2021 - Three youths sat on access gate steps.

We have been asked to share the following messages:

Key messages:

- At present the trains are still running (although this may be at different times to usual so never presume you know when the next train will pass)
- It is against the law to trespass on the railway and can result in a fine of £1000
- The Electricity is **ALWAYS** switched on around the railway
- Always **Stop, Look and Listen** before using a Level Crossing

We will discuss these issues with the children in school as part the of PSHE curriculum and it would be useful if they could be raised at home too.



Yesterday marked Earth Day and to do their bit, Zachary, Randal and Joanna picked up litter in East Avenue Park. Seeing their smiling faces, the blue sky and sunshine really made my day. Well done Nursery children!



Hot Lunches

We are now in a position to offer hot lunches from the 4th May to our Year 3 and 4 children. Some of you have already taken this up, but if you haven't done so and would like to, please let the school office know by Monday lunchtime next week, at the latest. If you would like further information regarding costs, menus and allergies please access the page on the school website by clicking [here](#).

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows

and the Etchells staff

