

SCHOOL NEWS

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Parents' Evening Booking

Thank you for bearing with us whilst we got the new Parents' Evening booking system up and running. You might be wondering why we have changed the system and website. Using the facility on our own website is not only free, it is also much easier to use and navigate once it is set up.

We still have around a third of parents who have not yet made an appointment, with some classes having a particularly low uptake. Meeting your child's teacher and finding out how they have started the academic year is extremely important. Please log onto our website to make an appointment:

www.etchells.stockport.sch.uk

Access the parent area at the top left of the home page.

Can I remind everyone that children are NOT to attend Parents' Evening. Teachers and parents need to concentrate on discussions and not be distracted with supervising children. It is not acceptable to leave children unsupervised in the corridors. The majority of parents have respected this request in the past - thank you.

Christmas Cards



You will have received your child's Christmas card design this week in their book bag. We are trying to get ahead of ourselves this year and offer them to you to buy before you hit the shops at half term!!

If you wish to order, please return to school, with payment by Wednesday 12th October. Last year, we raised around £300 commission from the Christmas card sales which was fantastic. We were able to buy the portable speaker we use for events and outdoor teaching. By getting our order in early, we are able to earn even more commission. It's a lovely opportunity for the children to have their artwork professionally printed, as well as raising additional funds for the school. Your support, as ever, is much appreciated.



Locking of School Gates

For safeguarding reasons, the school gates will be locked at 3.30pm. This is to ensure the safety of children attending our After School Club with Kidzone, as well as extra-curricular activities. It is unsafe to have our gates open allowing any stranger to access the site, whilst our pupils are still under our care.

The gates will be unlocked at 4.10pm to allow parents in to collect children from clubs. If you are collecting from Kidzone earlier than this, please use the 'door' bell attached to the gate.

Can I also remind parents, that again for safeguarding reasons, mobile phones should not be used when on site. Some children are particularly vulnerable and the use of a smart phone these days can put them at risk.

PTA donation days

As we begin the run up to the Christmas Fair (Friday 9th December, 5-7pm), we will be having some donation days in order to make the event a success. The first of these days will take place on Friday 21st October and as always, is entirely optional.

Please bring a pound in exchange for wearing non-uniform. The money will be used to create fantastic cash prizes for the raffle as well as fund additional prizes for other stalls.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

The nasal flu vaccinations will be administered to Years 1, 2 and 3 on Wednesday 12th October. We have already collected consent/refusal forms during last academic year. However, if your child has had the vaccine in the meantime, please let the school office know.

Parent Council

I have had only one parent put themselves forward for the Parent Council this year. This group is an extremely important way to voice parent opinion and to get issues clarified and suggestions considered. We find it really useful to listen to the parent voice and have made a number of changes over the last few years as a result of our meetings.

If you would like to put yourself forward to represent your class, please email me at

headteacher@etchells.stockport.sch.uk

Previous reps are welcome to put their name forward again, though I think we all agreed it would be good to share this responsibility out. It involves one or two meetings a term which last just for an hour, usually on a Monday night between 5 and 6pm.

We are still awaiting the final copy of our Ofsted report. It should be with us early next week. As soon as we receive it, we will email it out to parents and put it on the website.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the
Etchells staff

