

# SCHOOL NEWS

Makers Market | Online Payments | Attendance

## Online Payments

We are now in a position to offer online payments for parents. School dinners and trips can now be paid for using the SchoolMoney website. If you normally pay for a school dinner you will have received a text today giving you the website details, your password and the amount due to pay. You will still have the option to pay weekly or half termly.

After half term Y4 and Y2 will receive texts about a trip and an in-school history experience. Whilst you will still receive an information letter home, you will be able to pay on-line and give your permission on-line. Nothing will need to be returned to school.

It is important to note that you will receive a text every time an on-line payment is available for you to make. You will be reminded of your password each time. A receipt will be sent via email from SchoolMoney.

We will be rolling this out from after half term with the intention of all trips, extra-curricular clubs and dinner money being paid on-line from January 2017. Cash and cheques will not be accepted after this date.

School uniform will still be available to purchase from the school office with cash or cheque. This won't change in the future.

## PTA Spooky Disco

Our thanks to the PTA for organising a fantastic spooky disco yesterday. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the hall was transformed into a spooky setting! Thanks to all parents and staff who helped out, enabling the event to be such a success.



## Morning Drop Off

I would like to remind parents that children should NOT be dropped in the playground before 8.45am. Some children are being left as early as 8.15am and 8.30am. There is no supervision at this time.





## Christmas Fair Makers Market

Due to the success of the new format Christmas Fair last year, the PTA will continue to run a Makers Market at this year's fair too. We will be restricting tables to the hall this time in order to allow for other stalls to be held in the school corridor and classrooms.

If you are interested in booking a table for the market, please complete the attached booking form or pick up a copy from the school office.

The cost per table is £15 and we ask that a donation is made to the raffle for the evening. The PTA will review all applications in order to ensure a variety of stalls. Forms need to be handed to the school office by Friday 4th November.



## PTA Drawing Competition

This week the children will have brought home a letter about the PTA drawing competition. EYFS and KS1 children have been asked to design the front cover of the Christmas fair programme and KS2 to design the poster. There is a 50p entry fee and the winning artworks will receive a £10 voucher. Please submit designs by Friday 4th November.

- ✳ Please note all outdoor after school clubs have finished this week. They will resume in the summer term.
- ✳ When we return after half term the clocks will have gone back and the evenings will be much darker. We are awaiting the replacement of the lighting down the footpath adjacent to the car park and hoping the work will be completed during half term or very soon after.

Have a good half term break and we'll see everyone back on Monday 31st October at 8.50am.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the Etchells staff

# Attendance!!

Our Ofsted report was very critical of our levels of attendance and it was certainly a limiting factor on the judgement for Pupils' Welfare.

The report stated:

**Attendance has improved but is below the national average and too many pupils are persistently absent from school.**

We had only 2 identified areas for improvement and one of them was attendance! Unfortunately at the end of the first half term our overall attendance for the school is already falling below national average.

National Average = 96%

Etchells by 14.10.16 = 95.3%

1H	97.4%
4R	97.3%
4M	96.8%
3R	96.6%
2MP	95.3%
5W	95.2%
1CL	94.8%
6M	94.5%
6L	94.5%
3A	94.4%
2W	93.9%
5LC	92.8%

Only 4 classes achieved above 96%.

We must work together to improve this for the best interests of the children!

