

SCHOOL NEWS

Uniform Orders | Keep Your Distance!! | Spelling & Reading Books

Welcome Back!!

Welcome back to school and the autumn term! I hope you had an enjoyable holiday and opportunity to spend time with family and friends. It was lovely to see everyone back yesterday and settling into their new classes. The staff spent the INSET day attending training on phonics and spelling; this will be a focus for us this year in our School Development Plan. Time was also spent finishing the preparations for the new term; my thanks to the staff who, as always, spent time in the holidays getting the classrooms ready for the new academic year. The school has been cleaned from top to bottom, all ready for a fresh start this week.

School Uniform

School uniform can only be purchased online - it is not available at the office window. If you need uniform, please order using the schooluniforms@etchells.stockport.sch.uk More information can be found on the school website under 'School Info' or you can follow this [link](#).

Please remember that all children should come to school dressed in black joggers/ leggings and a white T-shirt for PE and Forest School. School sweatshirts should be worn at all times.

COVID-19 Guidance

Even though restrictions have been lifted nationally, we are still working closely with the guidance published by Stockport Local Authority and Stockport Public Health. The following points are really important for parents:

- Bubbles will no longer be closed in the event of a positive case in pupils or staff.
- If several cases occur within the same group of pupils and staff, we will send home a 'Warn and Inform' letter to make you aware.
- If we have five or more cases within the same group, this would be identified as an outbreak and our Outbreak Management Plan would be put in place. This may result in home learning, but only in the most extreme cases.
- We have to continue to use multiple entrances, exits and one way systems to avoid large crowding in outdoor spaces. Therefore, all pupils must be dropped at the designated places (see next page for details) and make their way directly to their classroom. Parents should leave via the car park gate if using the park entrance. Members of the SLT are always around in their yellow jackets and numerous other members of staff are on the playground to see the children safely in. This system worked for us very well last year.
- Pick up time: please do not crowd together - social distancing must be maintained for everyone's safety. Please wait in the designated area for your child's class.
- If anyone in the family tests positive - even on a lateral flow device test - the rest of the family should have a PCR test and isolate until the result is received.





LITTLE FLYERS BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Our new Breakfast and After School Club got up and running this week. It is fantastic to have this provision back in place. If you would like to book a place, please contact Clare Harding, the provision leader, by phone or email:

Littleflyers12@gmail.com

077420 58808

Phonics

Our reading books have all been rearranged and banded in order for them to align with the phonic phases the children are working at. We have kept the same order of colours for the book bands but they now represent a different standard. Therefore, if your child comes home with a book in the same colour band as last year or a band you thought they had progressed from, please do not be alarmed. The teachers have carefully placed the children in the new book bands and there are lots of new books to read which are directly linked to their phonics learning in school.

Spelling

We are taking on a new approach to the teaching of spelling in years 2 - 6. The aim is to build on the phonics learning in Early Years and Year 1 and teach the children to use similar strategies for their spelling as they progress through school. There will be a big emphasis on the teaching of spelling in class and therefore, spelling lists will no longer be sent home to learn. This has been proven to be an ineffective way for children to learn how to spell. Instead, our homework will have a greater emphasis on the learning of maths facts and times tables. Fluency is vital to support the 'Mastery' approach we have for maths and so your support with this at home is very much appreciated. We do of course, expect all children to continue to read regularly at home too.

Drop Off and Pick Ups

Just a reminder....

Drop off between 8.45am and 8.55am.

Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 children to enter via the park entrance - parents to exit through the car park.

Year 5 and 6 through the front door.

Reception and Nursery children via the Nursery entrance.

Pick up:

ALL parents to enter the school via the park entrance and leave by the Nursery.

Reception, Y1 and Y2 between 3.05 and 3.15pm.

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 at 3.15pm.

If you have children in both age ranges please arrive at 3.15pm.

Parents should wait on the playground in the following areas:

Year 4 by the hall

Year 3 by the Nursery fence

Year 5 and 6 next to the ramp for the year group

Year 1 and 2 near the classroom door

Reception next to the reception block



Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the Etchells staff

