

SCHOOL NEWS

PTA | Geography Week | New Classes

Urgent Help Needed for Summer Fair



The Summer Fair is fast approaching (Friday 6th July) but at the moment we only have a handful of offers to help. The fair will not be able to go ahead with all the stalls planned if we are unable to have people to run them. We are only asking for half an hour of your time and if you have a child with you that's fine! We are also happy for

Grandparents to help out and Year 6 pupils. If your Year 6 child would like to volunteer, please sign them up using the online system, putting Y6 in brackets after their name. The PTA are meeting this weekend to decide which stalls will have to be cancelled, so if possible, please put your name down as soon as possible.

Lets make this special community event happen for our school!!

Attached to this newsletter is the PTA guidance about how to sign up or you can follow the link below:

www.volunteersignup.org/F37Q4

Geography Week

This week there has been a focus on Geography skills throughout school. The children have had the opportunity to carry out fieldwork, compass and map skills, local studies and to get out and about enhancing their knowledge of the local area. This is a really important aspect of the Geography curriculum and probably the part the children enjoy the most! Here are our Year 2's who became detectives for the week and have been out looking for evidence:



Bikes and Scooters



The Parent Council met yesterday afternoon and the issue of bikes and scooters in school was raised. It is being reported that children (and some adults) are still riding on the pedestrian

paths down the side of the car park. This is strictly a footpath and anyone on a bike or scooter should dismount at the gate; it is for the safety of everyone walking in and out of school. Please supervise your children closely and if they come to school independently, talk to them about the importance of not riding past people on foot.

The Parent Council also discussed the possibility of installing a bike and scooter rack in order for them to be stored securely and safely. This is something we will certainly look into and could perhaps be a PTA project for the future. In the meantime we request that bikes are not chained against the gate leading into the staff car park.

This is an access gate for emergency vehicles and needs to be kept clear at all times.

Jury Service

It can happen to anyone, but poor Mrs Gale who really wants to make the most of her last few weeks at Etchells and is working extremely hard to help with the transition arrangements for our new starters, has been called for two weeks jury service. We have done our best to change it but it hasn't been possible.

Therefore, Mrs Gale will not be in school for the next fortnight. We will cover her absence with staff who know the children to ensure continuity and minimal disruption for the children.

Online Safety Concern

It has been brought to our attention by the Local Authority that there is an online game which is aimed at young children but is actually a 'psychological horror game with suicide as a main feature'. The NSPCC are extremely concerned about the impact the game has on the mood of children and their well-being. The game is called 'Doki Doki' and is also known as Doki Doki Literature Club. Please be vigilant and keep a close eye on your child's online activity.

Class Transitions

We usually wait until nearer the end of the school year before telling the children about their new class teacher and giving them the opportunity to visit their new classroom. However, we feel it would be beneficial for many of our children to have a little more time to adjust to the transition process and have more opportunities to visit. This year, we will be linking the main school transition visits with our new starters into Reception. This way the whole school, including the new Reception children, will have the opportunity to meet their teacher on 3 separate occasions. The first of these visits will be taking place next Thursday afternoon. Parents will have the opportunity to meet their child's new class teacher in person, during our Open Evening on Wednesday 18th July, between 5 and 7pm.

Next week is set to be a hot one - please ensure children come prepared with water bottles, all-day suncream and a sunhat if needed.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows

and the Etchells staff

