

# SCHOOL NEWS

Breakfast and After School Club | Punctuality | Parent Governor

## Important information:

### Breakfast and After School Club

If you currently use our Breakfast and After School Club you should have received a letter today outlining the upcoming changes to our provision. If you do not use the club please read on, as the information could be relevant to you in the future.

After much consideration we have decided to ask an outside provider to take over the running of our breakfast and after school provision. Each year the demand for the club increases which has had a significant impact on the workload of the office staff. They currently oversee the booking, payments, staffing and organisation of the club. It is more than a full time job now and needs to be carried out by someone who can focus on this fully. I discussed the matter with the Parent Council last week and they were in agreement that an outside provider would be the most effective and efficient route to take.

We have spoken to a number of providers and have decided to go with the Marple Childcare Company. They currently run a number of wrap around care provisions in schools in Stockport and come highly recommended. We liked their approach as it has many similarities to the way we currently run the club here in school. Parents will be able to make long or short term bookings and there will be more availability due to an increased number of staff. We will be keeping the times of the provision the same and hope to keep the cost as near as possible to current charges.

We are aiming to hand over the management of the club in January 2016. The company are keen to meet with parents beforehand to answer any questions and queries. This meeting is open to ALL parents and will be held next week on **Thursday 19th November at 7pm in the school hall**. It is important to understand that our school office will be unable to provide information about the new provision and therefore, attendance at the meeting will give you the chance to gain any information you need.



## Punctuality

We are becoming increasingly concerned about the number of children who are arriving late to school in the morning. When children miss registration at 8.50am they miss the chance to order their school dinner. During the past few weeks, there has been an endless queue of children in the school office who have to come and place their order late. This has a significant impact on the smooth running of the dinner ordering process as well as making additional work for the office staff during a peak time for phone calls and enquiries at the window. It is important to understand that lessons start at 9am and too many children are missing key aspects of these lessons.

Likewise, at the end of the day, some children are not being picked up on time at 3.15pm or after a club at 4.15pm. When our after school club transfers to Marple Childcare there will no longer be the option for children to be looked after because they have not been picked up. We will have to follow the practice of other schools and report persistent lateness in picking up to the Education Welfare Department in the Local Authority.

If children are not picked up after extra curricular clubs on time, they will not be able to book onto clubs in the future.

## Parent Governor

This week you will have received a nomination form for the role of Parent Governor. This is an extremely important role and gives someone the opportunity to be fully involved in the strategic running and leadership of the school. It is a very demanding position and shouldn't be taken on lightly. However, it is also very rewarding for the right person. Please read the papers carefully and consider the time commitments required. Nomination forms should be returned to school by Thursday 26th November. If we have more than one nomination we will take it to a parental vote.

## PTA

Many thanks for the fantastic turn out for the PTA meeting held at the Hallmark Hotel earlier this week. It was great to hear of so many new faces coming to support the PTA committee and it sounds like there are exciting plans afoot. Please keep in touch by following the Facebook page and Twitter feed and help out if you can.

## Twitter

Do you follow us yet on Twitter? If not look us up @EtchellsPS and help us reach 200 followers. We try to put the latest news, photos and updates on there. Follow the PTA too on @EtchellsPta



Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the Etchells staff

