

SCHOOL NEWS

Parking | Running Track | Litter Pick

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to the Summer Term of 2021. We start the term full of optimism now that more of our staff are being vaccinated, the Lateral Flow Testing is in full operation and our safety measures continue to be in place. New guidance was released from the Government regarding the running of schools, however, very little has changed for the primary sector.

Therefore, we will continue to work within our year group bubbles, wear face masks in communal areas, have lunches and breaks at a distance and continue to hold our meetings and training via online platforms.

We ask parents to continue with the staggered start and finish times, wear face masks on the school grounds and to keep a distance when in the playground.

The annual events which usually take place in the summer term will also look a little different. Sports Day, trips, end of term celebrations will be reviewed and we will unfortunately have to welcome our new parents for September via Zoom. There will be no formal testing taking place (KS1 and 2 SATs, phonics, Y4 multiplication check), though we will of course still be carrying out assessments during the term so we can inform you accurately about your child's attainment in regard to their Age Related Expectations and also to pass on to the next teacher for September.

Please continue to support at home with learning tables, counting, reading, spelling, as well as engaging with the homework tasks which have been emailed home today.



Once again, we have been experiencing problems with parking outside school at drop off and pick up times. Our main concern is the safety of our pupils. There must be no parking on yellow lines or zig zags at these busy times. There are signs which clearly state the times you can stop there. There are a number of white lines along East Avenue; Parking Reinforcement have told us that cars can only be parked here with the permission of the house owner.

There is now a form which can be filled in by anyone to report an illegally parked car. If there are parking reinforcement officers in the area, they will come straight over and ticket the car. I filled in the form this week to request the Parking Reinforcement camera car - this was responded to immediately. The Senior Leadership Team who are outside school will be using the form to report cars and I strongly urge parents to do this too. Please use the following link:

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/parking-enforcement>

School Car Park: a reminder that the school car park is for staff ONLY. Blue badge holders can park on production of the badge as well as the school taxi. Other taxis who are dropping off must not enter the car park. Staff who arrive after 8.30am find it increasingly difficult to park and there are safety concerns for pedestrians exiting the school grounds.



Running Track

We currently have a wood chipped path which runs around the school field, separating the play areas and the Forest School/Outdoor Learning areas.

This was created with lots of volunteers from the parents and staff and has been great. However, we would now like to develop this further. Firstly, we would like to make it more accessible in order for our wheelchair users and less mobile pupils to use it to access the log circles. We would also like to create a more 'all-weather' surface for the path to enable it to be used for our 'mile-a-day' activities, promoting exercise, well-being and fitness for our pupils. This will be an expensive project and we will be looking at applying for community grants to help us fund it.

We would be looking at opening the track to the community - though haven't planned the final detail of this yet. What we would like to know is whether this is something that would be of interest to you. Is this a facility you would like to use out of the school day? If we can gauge the interest from our community this will strengthen our application for funding. If you would like to make a comment or any suggestions regarding this project, please comment on the forum in the Parent Area of the school website. Your feedback would be very much appreciated.



Community Spirit!



I was delighted to hear about some of our Year 3 pupils who took part in the East Avenue Park litter pick.

Harry, Daniel, Daisy,

Joshua, Jessie and Billy all assisted the Heald Green Community Group. I'm sure there were others there too, so a massive well done if you were involved. I'm told that the children worked for over an hour, independently cleaning up the park and collectively doing a wonderful job. We're very proud of your efforts - well done!

Summer Term Curriculum

We had an extremely successful INSET day on Monday, putting all the exciting Curriculum plans in place for the Summer Term. Although we are aware of areas in English and Maths that will need some catching up, we are implementing the Etchells Curriculum in our usual way, with no subject being neglected. The Year Group Newsletters sent home today outline what is planned for the term ahead for your child.

If you don't already, please consider following us on Twitter. This

enables you to see what is going on across the school, as well as our celebrations and news.

Follow us: @EtchellsPS

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows

and the Etchells staff

