

SCHOOL NEWS

Parent Council | PTA | Parents Evening

Parents' Evening

Last week I outlined the proposed timings for Parents' Evenings and information points throughout the academic year. We indicated that we would usually hold our Spring Parents' Evening the second week after half term. It will in fact take place the third week back on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th March. The reason for this is that the school will be undergoing an 'LA Review' on the 13th March. This involves Local Authority advisors coming into school to observe lessons and have discussions with the Senior Leadership Team. The process is all part of monitoring our progress in reaching a 'Good' Ofsted judgement.

School Car Park

The issue of parking continues to rumble on. I would like to remind parents that the school car park is for the sole use of **staff, blue badge holders and specific children's taxis**. I ask you again to respect this.



Follow us @EtchellsPS

TEAM/PTA

I recently met with TEAM for the first time. They were keen to discuss the future of the group and how it could be re-shaped in order to achieve the best outcomes for the school, parents and community. It was decided to change the name to PTA as this is a title most people are familiar with. In recent feedback from parents, there has been a considerable demand for an increase in community and family events. The members were very much in agreement with this and had a good range of ideas to consider. One of the significant factors for the decline of such occasions has been the lack of support in organising and running of events.

We would very much like to welcome new members to the PTA to help at an organisational level. If, for whatever reason, you are unable to attend committee meetings, we would also like to build up a group of parents who could help out on the actual day or evening to enable the event to go ahead. Please email me, drop by the office or give us a call if you would be willing to lend a hand. The next PTA meeting is being held on Wednesday 26th March from 6.30-7.30pm. We would love to welcome new parents and new ideas!

As well as organising family events, the PTA have always played a role in fundraising in order to provide additional resources and experiences for the children which are considered to be the 'Icing on the Cake' items. I would like the PTA to have a goal to achieve in order to maximise the monies raised. For example, provision of extra iPads and laptops (in addition to the number school will provide), special books for classrooms, playground resources etc. This is something I would like to discuss and decide at the next meeting, so if you would like to have an input, please come along. I hope to see a lot of new faces there in order for us to really give the PTA a well deserved boost.



This week...

*has been Safer Internet Week in school. Children have been involved in activities helping them increase their understanding of how to stay safe online. We would like to remind parents that MSN and Facebook should only be used by children over 13 years old. For more helpful parental advice please follow this link www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/parents-and-carers

* We currently only have 10 takers for the Halal meals at lunchtime. At the moment, our current provider will not provide for such a small number. We are however reviewing the provision of our lunch time meals so this could change in the future. If you would like to make any comments regarding school meals, please send your comments and questions to your Parent Council rep once they have made contact with you.

Next week (sshhh!!)

* ... is a very exciting week in school. On Monday we would like ALL children to bring to school named wellies in a strong plastic bag and a waterproof coat. These ideally need to stay in school until Friday. All will be revealed next week!!!!

Parent Council

I am delighted to inform you that we have 11 volunteers for the Parent Council. We still have some vacancies (see below). Please get in touch if you are interested.

N	Vacancy
RR	Kerry Vacara
RG	Cheryl Delaney
1B	Julie Ollier
1H	Hamayan Choudry
2P	Darren Smith
2C	Nicola Watson
3FM	Vacancy
3T	Susie Metcalfe
4R	Vacancy
4LC	Sarah Lee-Evangelinou/Yvonne Hassan
5W	Vacancy
5P	Vacancy
6NC	Paula Nicholson

Could I ask all Parent Council members to introduce themselves to other parents in their child's class and if possible, provide an email address through which they can contact you. It could be advisable to set up an email specifically for this purpose. This initial contact can be set up by providing a short note to parents through the office and we will distribute to the children. The first meeting will take place at 5pm on Tuesday 11th March. For the first meeting, as well as discussing issues raised by parents, I am particularly interested in hearing views about the current school dinner provision..

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows

and the Etchells staff

