

SCHOOL NEWS

Nursery Hours | Safer Internet Day | PTA Fish & Chip Bingo Night

Nursery Hours

We are considering changing the hours for our Nursery provision in order to make it easier for parents to arrange childcare and fit around work hours. We are proposing to change from 5 mornings or 5 afternoons to 2 and a half full days i.e. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday morning or Wednesday afternoon, Thursday, Friday.

We would very much value your opinion about this - even if you don't have children who will be starting nursery in the near future. It is very difficult for us to canvas prospective nursery parents as we don't yet know who they are, so your opinion as parents, is very important to us.

If you are a current Nursery parent, you will be receiving a letter asking you to indicate your preference for the hours. Please note however, that these changes will not be taking place until September 2016.

Parents of all other year groups can indicate your opinion by filling in the online survey on our website. To do this you need to log on with your password, select the 'Surveys and Forms' tab and then click 'Nursery Hours'. It is a very quick multiple choice question. If you would like to make a comment, you can do so on the parent forum which has been set up for this subject.

Your opinions are very important to us so please take the time to respond if you can.

Save The Date!!

In response to popular demand, the PTA are organising a fun family evening for both parents and children. The emphasis on the event is fun and community and we hope as many of you can come as possible.

The event:

Fish and Chip Bingo Night

The date:

Friday 18th March 2016

The time:

6pm - 8pm

Who can come:

All children and families

More information will follow - all we would like you to do now is put the date in your diaries!

PTA Fundraising goals

Thanks to all who came to the PTA meeting on Monday. Amongst other things, spending projects were discussed. It was agreed that the major project for this year would focus on a new library in the entrance area of the school.



Rewards for attendance

Every half term the class with highest attendance is rewarded with a non-uniform day. Feedback from the Parent Council indicated that parents would prefer individual awards to recognise attendance too. We do give out individual certificates for outstanding attendance at the end of the year, but we would like to do something a little more regularly.

Starting from the end of next week, all children who have attendance over 98% will be given a merit award which can be put towards bronze/silver/gold badge.

The children are really enjoying earning their badges and wear them with pride. Please remember that when a silver badge is earned, it must be exchanged with the bronze badge. Unfortunately, the badges are expensive and we are unable to let the children keep them. At the end of the year, certificates will be given to celebrate the level the children have reached. Any 'Wow' badges (150 merits) awarded will be able to be kept at the end of the year as this will be such an outstanding achievement.

Governors in School

On Tuesday morning, the governors curriculum committee will be coming into school to talk to children about their maths work and to look at their workbooks with them. They are looking to see how our calculation policy and The Etchells Way (marking and presentation) are being applied in books. Both these policies can be found on the website. Comments will be posted on the Governors' blog on our home page with their feedback, so please look here if you are interested. Many thanks to the governors for their hard work and generosity with their time.



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Active Kids
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Next Tuesday is Safer Internet Day 2016. We teach the children about online

safety throughout the year, but do also mark this national awareness day with lessons and activities.

Please follow this link to find out more information:

www.saferinternetday.org.uk We will be posting photos on Twitter (@EtchellsPS) and on class pages on the website. Please also remember we have a parents information session for safer internet use on Thursday 28th April at 6pm.

We are collecting Sainsbury's vouchers for schools once again, so please send them into school if you have any.

Last year, we used the vouchers to buy a range of sports equipment to be used by the lunchtime squaddies who are following a programme devised by Freddy Fit. They have had a special training day and we hope to get this set up very soon. The vouchers have been used to set up special bags of equipment to be used by the groups. We will post pictures of the equipment in use as soon as they are up and running.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the Etchells staff

