



SCHOOL NEWS

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One Way System Change!!



After a long discussion with the Parent Council we have decided to put an end to the one way system in the playground.

There were lots of pros and cons to operating both ways, but reverting back to the system we had before Covid seemed the best approach.

Concerns were voiced regarding congestion and safety; parents with buggies and children with bikes have found it much easier.

Therefore we are asking for everyone to keep to one side of the path and be watchful of others coming in the opposite direction. Patience and politeness is needed from everyone.

We have also decided to open the gates a little earlier at 8.40am to allow for a steadier flow of people entering the playground. However, staff will not be on the playground until 8.45am and so children must not be left unattended before then. Gates will close at 9am; this will allow for a window of 20 minutes for everyone to arrive.

Due to the safety of the children, we are unable to unlock the gates earlier in the afternoons and this will remain the same time at 3.05pm.

PTA Film Night - Thank You

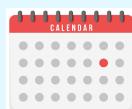


We had a really great time at the PTA Film Night last week. Thank you to everyone who came and supported the event - as well as being so patient whilst we got the ovens lit! Please see

the message from the PTA above.



Holiday Change!



It has been brought to our attention that the LA have made an alteration to the Autumn term 2024 dates. The term will finish on Thursday 19th December rather than Wednesday 18th. I have attached an updated overview of the dates for your reference. This can also be found in the 'School Office' section of the school website.



Nursery Outdoor Area

Today sees the completion of our very exciting Nursery Outdoor Project. We have had some lovely feedback from some of you - thank you. The outdoor area is a very important aspect of the curriculum for our Early years area and this newly designed space is going to transform the way our Nursery children can learn and play outdoors. Many thanks to the PTA for raising a good chunk of the funds - as well as all our families for supporting the events in order to raise the monies.

We are going to hold a Grand Opening next Friday after school - more information will be issued via ClassDojo.



Before...



Biscuit delivery...



Nearly there...

Parent Council Feedback

As well as the one way system we also discussed the following points:

- Range of clubs available: Parents requested more options for clubs for the younger children. We recently organised Rugby Tots for Y1-3 but had to cancel due to lack of interest. We will open this to more year groups in the summer. The company are re-branding as Rugby Kids in order to reflect better the age range for the activity. Unfortunately, we have also had to cancel netball and tennis this term due to low numbers.
- There seems to be a high demand for music based clubs which is something we will look into.
- We had some other great suggestions such as chess club, languages and Science. I'm pleased to say that we will be running a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) club for Y3 and Y4 in the summer.
- We also discussed how the school could be more environmentally sustainable. We will look at getting our Eco Club back up and running and consider ideas for this going forward.
- For our next meeting we would like feedback about the individual and class photos, school meals and aspects of school that are really positive which we can share with prospective parents.

Reporting Absence

A few parents have been using School Spider (our website App) to report children's absence. Please do not do this. All absences must be phoned into the school office - a message can be left. This ensures the message is received in a timely manner and we therefore won't have to phone you.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the Etchells staff

