



# Newsletter



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our final home learning pack, number 7, is ready for collection from school. Our theme is 'Back to the 1970s'. In September we are celebrating 50 years on the present school site. The present school opened in September 1970. We thought it would be fun to go back in time this term and at the beginning of next term and look at how things have changed between 1970 and today. On youtube there is a film called 'A new school for Eastergate'. The video is about 25 minutes long and it shows the old Victorian school and explains how the new school was designed and built. Please click the link below.



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JsmOY\\_BnCo&safe=true](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JsmOY_BnCo&safe=true)

We have planned some more activities at the beginning of the new school year linked to our fiftieth anniversary on our present site. We hope to make a short film make our own historical record for children to look at in fifty years time!

Look out on Tapestry for videos that will take you back in time!



**'Celebration, Farewell and Best Wishes'** Next week are are welcoming our six pupils back to school for a 'celebration, farewell and best wishes' event. We hope the day will be a chance for them to get together and see one another before they head off to secondary school in September.

**Collective Worship** This term continuing our theme of Bible heroes we are looking at the story of Joshua and how he had to be **'bold and strong'** when he was faced with a challenge. He was able to do this because he put his trust in God. In the home learning packs there are some activities for the children linked to the story and to transition. I will continue to 'broadcast' Friday News Desk to update everyone with things that are happening in our school community.



**Thank you to those families and children that took part in St Georges Church service.** Well done to those children who took part in the church service last Sunday

**Transition Day** I hope you have all managed to watch our transition video that we posted on Tapestry.



Classes for next year are:

Year group	Class	Teacher
early years	Chaffinch	Mrs McClure
year one	Heron	Mrs Jacob
year two	Kestrel	Mrs Hughes-Jones
year three	Moorhen	Miss Truscott
year four	Osprey	Mr McCall
year five	Quail	Miss Hanson
year six	Skylark	Mrs Butler

In the next week teachers are going to post transition power points on Tapestry. Please look out for these in your child's account. We will also post some stories and other things to support transition. Four of our classes will be returning to the same class teacher they had this year, so hopefully this will help them to feel more confident about returning to school.

At the beginning of September we will post some videos of their new classrooms and videos about new routines in school, so you are able to talk with your children about returning to school. At this stage in the term the classrooms are not ready and we have an extensive plan of works over the summer.

If you have any concerns about your children returning to school in September, please email [secretary@eastergate.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@eastergate.w-sussex.sch.uk) We still have time in the next week or so to support families and address any questions you may have.

### Please could you help when we return in September by...

There are a few things we need your help with when we return in September. This is to help keep all of our children safe by

- reducing things brought into school or taken home from school.
- ensuring children can keep track of their personal belongings
- items brought into school are easily cleaned



These things will help us to reduce the risk of coronavirus and other germs being transmitted.

**Payment for school trips and events** We will only accept electronic payments from September. To minimise the risks associated with handling items **we are no longer able to accept cash.**



**Lunch boxes** Please could you provide your child with a plastic lunch box that can be wiped down. No padded/insulated lunch boxes.

**Rucksacks** We have limited storage space in school. Please make sure your child has a small rucksack that can be zipped shut.

**School uniform** All children will need to return to school in school uniform. We are not going to ask children to change into their PE kits when they have PE. Instead children are permitted to wear their PE kit in school on days when they have PE. We will review this at the end of the first half term. Please see the website for details regarding our school uniform.



**Named items** Water bottles, jumpers and any personal items should be named. Please invest in a permanent pen and laundry pen or name tapes and name any personal items of clothing, water bottles and lunch boxes. **We are not going to operate a 'lost property box' from September and unnamed property will be thrown away at the end of each day.**

**Contacting school** Please contact school by phone or email and avoid coming into the school office. We will share your child's class teacher's email with you at the beginning of term and protocols around emailing staff.

We have already been putting things into place for September to reduce some of the risks around transmission of coronavirus, in line with advice from the government.

These include:

- individually name pencil boxes containing all of the resources they need to reduce sharing resources
- additional reading books, so they are not shared across classes or they are 'quarantined' for at least 72 hours
- installation of additional sanitisers inside and outside so that children are able to wash their hands at regular intervals during the school day
- review of timetables and school routines to minimise contact between different year groups

There are some more routines and measures that we will put in place in line with government advice for September. We will share arrangements and dates next week's newsletter. Further advice will be issued by West Sussex early next week. Once we have taken this into consideration and formulated a robust plan for Eastergate, we will be in a position to share our plans for September with you.

**Very Last Library Reminder!** It has been great to see so many families popping in to change their library/ reading books. We are continuing our scheme through to the end of term and sessions are available to book now. For more information on how this operates, see our previous newsletter.



***We understand that coronavirus has presented everyone in our school community with many challenges over the past five months or so and the impact will continue to have an effect on all of us in the months to come. If you have any worries or concerns please don't hesitate to contact us at school. Sometimes just talking things through helps and gives us an understanding of how to support your children in school. Please contact school by phone 01243 542297 or email [secretary@eastergate.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@eastergate.w-sussex.sch.uk). The email address will be checked through the summer holidays on a regular basis.***

In the meantime stay at home, stay safe and we look forward to a time when we can come back together.



Best wishes,

*CM Ward*

Catherine Ward