



Newsletter



Wednesday 9th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Finally the day has come when we are all back together again!

Welcome back to the new school year 2020-2021. We are so pleased to see all of our children return to school this term. We know there has been a mixture of excitement and nerves about the start of the new school year, which is very understandable. We are immensely proud of the way the children have returned to school; their enthusiasm, the way they are learning and adapting to the new routines and their approach to their learning in class.



They are all looking very smart in their new school uniforms and so proud to be wearing their school colours and logo! We really appreciate the time and effort you have made to make sure they are smart and ready for the new school year. Their school uniform helps to create a sense of belonging, which is something we are going to be focusing on in the new few weeks through our times of collective worship.

During the first few weeks you may find children are tired and a bit fractious at the end of the school day as they get use to being back in school. Please don't worry and contact us if you have any concerns, so we are able to give children the understanding, support and help they need.

Please could you help 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.

PE kits We would like everyone to wear their PE kits to school on PE days. Please see the website for more information under 'Uniform'. This is to cut down on things that are transferred between home and school for the time being. Football strips or any other commercial team kit is not permitted, except on non uniform days. Kestrel and Skylark Classes will be doing Forest Schools on Mondays this half term. Separate details will follow tomorrow.



PE days are:

Class	Days
Chaffinch	Thursday
Heron	Wednesday and Friday
Kestrel	Friday
Moorhen	Tuesday and Thursday
Osprey	Monday and Wednesday
Quail	Monday and Friday
Skylark	Thursday

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.**



Book bags and home work We have purchased wipe able zipped bags for children to transfer their home school reading book, reading diary and any paper copies of homework that needs to be transported between home and school. These bags are wipe able.



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.

Contacting school Please contact school by phone or email and avoid coming into the school office at the beginning or end of the school day. If it is necessary to meet with a member of staff a socially distanced meeting can be made.



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. Every class has a black sharpie pen and we will name any items that are not named.**



DEAR time or Drop Everything And Read Unfortunately we are not able to facilitate parents and carers coming into school for early morning reading. We will look at events and things that we are able to put in place, to continue to enthuse and support our children in their learning during the next half term. Our main priority is to keep everyone safe and keep our school open.



Year 6 Children and secondary school A letter was sent home yesterday with every child in Year 6 explaining how to apply for a place at secondary school. The deadline for applications is Saturday 31st October 2020. There is a leaflet attached to this newsletter, or you can call 03330 142 903 should you have any questions regarding the secondary school application process.

Staggered start and end of the school day Thank you for your patience and good humour in the mornings and afternoons with the staggered drop off and pick up times. We have closed the 'bridge' at home time for the time being to prevent people from cutting through the carpark and to enable us to manage the one way flow of people through the carpark. Once we get into a routine we will review our risk assessments and decide whether it is safe to open the bridge. For the time being, thank you for your patience.

Thank you for supporting the Voluntary One Way System in Church Lane. We are looking to develop things further to keep our families safe at pick up and drop off times.

We understand that coronavirus has presented everyone in our school community with many challenges over the past six 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 or sign post you to others that may be able to help.

Please contact school by phone 01243 542297 or email secretary@eastergate.w-sussex.sch.uk.



Best wishes,

 Catherine Ward



If your child is unwell, please do not send them into school. If they are displaying signs of COVID-19, I have prepared a flow chart to explain what will happen in school, a copy of which has been sent out with this newsletter.

If you have any concerns about your children, please phone school or email secretary@eastergate.w-sussex.sch.uk

Our classes this year are:

Year group	Class	Teacher	Teaching Assistant
early years	Chaffinch	Mrs McClure	Miss Petrucci
year one	Heron	Mrs Jacob	Miss Hillman
year two	Kestrel	Mrs Hughes-Jones	Mrs Ringe
year three	Moorhen	Miss Truscott	Mrs Ward
year four	Osprey	Mr McCall	Mrs Sehili
year five	Quail	Miss Hanson	Mrs Coates
year six	Skylark	Mrs Butler	Mrs Baker

Miss Everett will be covering PPA in Chaffinch Class, and working with children in both Osprey and Quail Classes. Mrs Todd will be joining us and working in Heron, Kestrel and Moorhen Classes to help with phonics and maths.

A New Face Mrs Vinter has joined the office team this term to help with 'front of house'. Mrs Russell and Mrs Pascoe are still in the 'back office'.