

Emmbrook Junior School Newsletter

Friday 19th June 2020

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Letters emailed last week and this week:

- Well Being Wednesday Newsletter
- School Email Address
- Key Hub Club Important Information
- Key Hub Club Packed Lunches
- Outside Gathering Letter

Hello from Mr. Usher

Welcome back to Year 5! I can't tell you how brilliant it's been going into every classroom at Emmbrook Junior School and finding children interacting with their teacher and each other (socially distanced of course). Thank you so much for your kind wishes and notes of thanks. The response from parents has been overwhelmingly positive and it is greatly appreciated. I would like to thank the school's Governing Body for supporting us with returning Year 5. We now have Year 6, Year 5 and a much-expanded Key Hub Club all accessing school on a regular if not daily basis. This means that well over half the school population is now in school for at least part of the week. This success is down to the dedication and hard work of all the staff and it would be remiss of me not to thank them for their efforts.

I know that many parents of Year 3 and Year 4 children must be feeling frustrated, disappointed and even angry that we are not able to return their children too. Please believe me when I tell you that all the staff here would love to return to some semblance of normalcy. The Year 3 and 4 staff are missing their children and we have explored many different options for how we could return them too, however given the limitations we have on space (all classrooms are now being used) and staff (all adults are either leading bubbles or supporting children) we will not be able to return these year groups to school before September unless the government guidance changes dramatically.

However as outlined below we are planning to give all children an opportunity to return to school before the summer to meet their new teachers. We hope to share more detail regarding this next week. We are also making some adjustments to the provision for Year 3 and Year 4 which are detailed below.

Thank you and a big well done to all the Year 5 children that have returned to school this week. I hope you have enjoyed being back because we have certainly loved having you.

New Classes in September

All children will move up in their current classes this year. We are pleased to be able to share our staffing structure from September with you:

(See below*)	Year 3 Ash	Mrs Hatherley
(See below*)	Year 3 Larch	Mr Hewitt
Year 3 Ash will become...	Year 4 Elm	Mr Fox
Year 3 Larch will become...	Year 4 Cedar	Mrs Tinson
Year 4 Elm will become...	Year 5 Maple	Miss Biln
Year 4 Cedar will become...	Year 5 Pine	Miss Felton
Year 5 Maple will become...	Year 6 Beech	Mrs Jones
Year 5 Pine will become...	Year 6 Fir	Mrs Preston and Mrs McAllister

*If you have a child joining us in Year 3 this year, you will be informed which class they are in early next week.

REMINDER – appropriate clothes for school

Clothing - Please can we remind you that although we are not asking the children in Year 5, 6 and our Key Hub Club to wear their normal school uniform when they come to school, they must still be dressed appropriately. This includes clothing and footwear. Please make sure that your child wears trainers, as they will be outside as much as possible. Sports and comfortable leisure wear is recommended such as jogging bottoms, leggings, shorts, sleeved t-shirts and sweatshirts. Please ensure that children wear clothing that is both weather appropriate and comfortable as well as not being too revealing. Shorts that are very short or exposed midriffs are not appropriate school wear.

Lunch – please ensure children arriving for the afternoon bubbles have eaten before they arrive at school.

Punctuality – we're really pleased that children are so keen to get to school on time, but some have been arriving more than 20 minutes early. This can mean them waiting around either outside the school gates or milling around the playground. Morning bubbles for Y5 and Y6 begin at 8:40am and the gates open from 8:30am so please try not to arrive much before this. Afternoon bubbles for Y5 and Y6 begin at 12:20pm – please try not to arrive any earlier than 12:10pm. Thanks for your support and cooperation.

Virtual Sports Day

Yes, it is true. Sports Day is still happening in virtual form! We have come up with a way for all children to take part in a virtual Sports Day via Zoom and the dates are as follows:

Wednesday 8th July

Year 3 – 10am to 11am

Year 4 – 12pm to 1pm

Year 5 & 6 – 2pm to 3pm (morning bubble pupils after attending school)

Friday 10th July

Year 5 & 6 – 10am to 11am (afternoon bubble pupils before attending school)

Key Hub Club – 2pm – 3pm (physically at school)

There will be 8 events taking place and the children will need a parent or older sibling to help out. I will be posting a video next week on to Teams for you all to watch. The video will show you what and how the events are done, the equipment needed and how the results are to be logged. Please take notes of the dates and add them to your diaries. I can't wait for our virtual Sports Day to take place and I look forward to seeing everyone again.

Mr Fisher

Our Year 3 and Year 4 team have been working hard to enhance the provision available to their year groups. Each week, the Year 3 and 4 staff will ask for a piece of work to be submitted by the children on which they will give some feedback. This will be optional but actively encouraged.

From Monday the 22nd the Year 3 and Year 4 staff will be offering enhanced inputs for English and Maths. These **may** be through short video inputs for specific lessons; audio commentary added to PowerPoints; list of web links to support specific areas of learning or even through an additional class drop in via Zoom.

Current Provision

Daily Maths lessons via Teams

Daily English lessons via Teams

Weekly Learning Journey Activities via Teams

Weekly Class assemblies via Zoom

Weekly Class Drop-ins with a learning focus via Zoom

Optional Extras via Teams

Email contact with teachers via year group email address

Additional Provision

Weekly optional set task with feedback from year group – via Teams & Email

Additional Social Class Drop-in via Zoom

Enhanced input for Maths (see detail above)

Enhanced input for English (see detail above)

Year 3 and 4 staff will continue to do whole class assemblies but will add the drop-in session after their assembly. The new details for these have been emailed out already. Please be aware that Year 3 and 4 teaching staff will be leading learning bubbles at school during the week and whilst they will continue to respond to emails and give feedback for any submitted activities, it may not be as rapid as it has been up until now.

Anti-Racism – Black Lives Matter

Last week we shared some links to materials and resources to help foster a discussion with your children about the news, race and equality. At Emmbrook Junior School part of our Mission Statement is to provide an inclusive and positive environment and part of this will involve us looking at how BAME people exist in Emmbrook Junior's curriculum and how do we include BAME people in our school environment. This may be uncomfortable for us to talk about, but our discomfort is nothing compared to that of people on the receiving end of overt and structural racism.

Each week we will share some ideas or resources that may get the conversation going at home.

Books For Kids

AntiRacist Baby by Ibram X. Kendi

Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman

All Are Welcome by Alexandra Penfold

Not Like The Others: A Hidden Picture Book About Diversity by Jana Broecker

The Wokingham BME Forum have launched an anti-racism survey that I wish to share with you. The survey is to try to gain a wider understanding of issues and experiences across the borough:

<https://wokinghamboroughcouncil.researchfeedback.net/s.asp?k=159196889502>

Transition

We are currently putting together transition plans. We plan to invite **all** children in Years 3, 4 and 5 into school during the last week of term to attend a half-day session led by their new Class Teacher within a small bubble. We will also set up individual meetings with new class teachers and the parents of our SEND and vulnerable children before the end of term too. In order to run the best transition program that we can, this is likely to mean some changes to our provision for Years 5 and 6 during the last week of term. This will all be communicated to you in detail next week. (If you have a child joining us in Year 3 next year, you will be contacted early next week about our transition plans for our youngest cohort.)

Online Safety

The potential harm or risk:

Sharing of images, videos and posts online

Description: We are aware that many of our children have access to social media websites such as Tik Tok, Snapchat, Instagram to name but a few. Some children have accounts set up in their own name and others regularly use their parents' accounts to view or upload images, videos or posts. There is a growing culture with young people of gaining 'likes' and 'followers'.

What can you do? If your child has access to one of these sites, we urge you to please regularly check their privacy controls. In order to generate 'likes' and 'followers', children may wish to make these accounts public so that anyone, anywhere can see or comment on posts or uploads. Accounts being open to the public means that young people are exposed to anyone who chooses to access the platform. These images and videos can be downloaded, copied, edited and reposted with no control or authorisation from the person who originally made the post. This means that children can be in danger from online predators who could groom or even blackmail them. We urge all our parents to ensure that they review their children's social media accounts and ensure that are set to maximum privacy. This means they will get less 'likes' and 'followers' but we believe this is a very small price to pay for their safety. As you can see the minimum age for the most common social media platforms is 13 years old.

[Minimum age on popular social platforms](#)

Age guide for social media platforms

Find out the minimum age required to use the most popular social networks

internetmatters.org

Age	Platforms
13	TikTok, Periscope, Instagram, Twitter, Odnoo, G+, tumblr., Pinterest, reddit, snapchat, facebook
14	LinkedIn
16	WhatsApp, meet me
17	myspace
18 (13 with adult permission)	flickr, kik, tinder, YouTube, FOURSQUARE, Yik Yak

Rapunzel – Part 2 by Annabelle in Year 6

But first, a quick recap from last week:

Rapunzel – Part 1	Rapunzel – Part 2
<p>You thought you knew the sweetest story, But the real one's much more gory, A little girl just turning seven, Her knotted hair reached nine-foot eleven, Her horrid hair just grew and grew, Until she got it stuck in stew, It began to boil and turn all green, It was the ugliest thing she'd ever seen, Her mother tried to cut it off, She snorted and said I'd rather eat broth, Then one night her mother said, While the girl was tucked up in bed, I'll shave it off knot by knot, That'll teach the little tot...</p>	<p>So when the girl was fast asleep, The mother walked in with not a peep, She shaved it off with not a sound, And labelled it at one hundred pound, She whipped it off to London Town, Where she bought a brand-new gown, When the mother awoke the child, She looked at the mirror and far from smiled, She rode off in a little car, And headed to a wig shop bar.</p> <p>Look out for the next part of Annabelle's brilliant ballad in next week's newsletter.</p>

Well done Annabelle! You have a fantastic way with words and language.