

# Emmbrook Junior School Newsletter

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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## Letters this week:

- Year 5 Planetarium Visit
- Mobile Phone Permission (Years 5 & 6 only)



## Hello from Mr. Usher



Wow, what a great start to the term and year. The children have been incredible and it has been brilliant to see them in class and on the playground. We have already learned some valuable lessons from the first couple of days of having the children back in school and we are updating our risk assessment accordingly with each issue as it arises. Thank you for your on-going support and helping us to get the children back to school as safely as possible. The staff have continued to be brilliant and I hope you will join me in thanking them for their dedication and hard work. Have a brilliant weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

## Start & End of Day Procedures

Thank you for your cooperation with our soft start to the day. Classroom doors will continue to be open from **8:30am to 8:50am** and children should arrive during this period. If you are running late for any reason you will need to bring your child to the main school reception. If there is already someone in the reception area please wait until they have left before entering. On arrival at school children can be taken to the playground gates and then allowed to find their own way to their classroom. This will reduce the number of additional adults on site. If you prefer you can drop your child at the main school gates and allow them to make their way into school following the one-way system.

When coming onto the school site at the start or end of the day parents **MUST** follow the one-way system. We also ask that only **one** parent or carer enter the school site to collect children and to follow the one-way system as closely as possible.

At the end of the day pupils who are being collected will be taken to their year group collection points. **All pupils will finish at 3:15pm** and go to their designated collection zones or in the case of pupils with permission to walk home alone leave the school site directly.

**Year 3 children will be released from their classroom doors.** Parents should wait on the playground opposite the Year 3 classrooms whilst maintaining social distance from each other as much as possible.

**Year 4 children will be walked to the area in front of the PE shed** at the far end of the top playground. Parents of Year 4 children should wait here whilst maintaining a social distance from one another.

**Year 5 children** that do NOT have permission to walk home alone **should be collected from the covered area on the playground**, again this is where parents should wait for their children while keeping a social distance from one another.

**Year 6 children** that do NOT have permission to walk home alone **should be collected from the quiet garden area next to the infant school just to the left of the green gates as you enter the playground.**

**We understand that people may wish to have a catch-up and have a chat but so that we can safely manage everyone on and off the site as quickly and safely as possible once you have collected your child please vacate the school site as quickly as possible.**

## Year 5 & Year 6 walking home alone

We have extended the opportunity to walk home alone to Year 5 pupils as well as Year 6 pupils although this will only be done with express **email** consent from parents.

If your child is in **Year 5 or Year 6** and you would like to give them permission to walk home alone or meet you off the school site **please email the office** [admin@emmbrook-jun.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@emmbrook-jun.wokingham.sch.uk) **giving their name and class.**

You can give or withdraw permission at any time but we must receive an email by **12pm the previous school day**. This allows us time to update our lists and ensure staff know who has permission.

Children in Year 3 and Year 4 must continue to be collected from school by a designated adult.

## Bags & Equipment

We have noticed that many children have several bags coming into school with them each day. We would like to reiterate that children only need to bring in their PE kit (preferably in a draw string bag); their packed lunch; a water bottle and if applicable a reading book. This should hopefully all fit into a single bag.

## Workshops

We have already started planning these for this term and some year groups will receive details this week outlining the event and any costs. We feel that these experiences are vital to giving children a broad and balanced education as well as helping to enthuse them about their learning. They will of course take place under the guidelines laid out by the government and in line with our risk assessment.

## Symptoms

There has been some discussion in the media this week regarding additional symptoms linked to Covid-19 that may be seen in children. At present the Public Health England guidelines issued by the government do not include any new additional symptoms.

### Symptoms of coronavirus in children

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

### What to do if your child has symptoms

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

[Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.](#)

Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test. Anyone you live with must also stay at home until you get the result.

## School Meals

At present we cannot update the ScoPay system to show the interim school meal options. These will be shared with the children at the start of each day during registration should they wish to order a school meal. Please note that school meals are **served cold**, even where the option is something that might usually be served hot. This is not the choice of the school but is all our catering service is currently able to offer.