

Emmbrook Junior School Newsletter

Friday 18th September 2020

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Hello from Mr. Usher



Hello all, it's been another busy week here at Emmbrook Junior School. We have had a few calls from parents regarding possible symptoms and what you should do if you're unsure about sending your child into school. Our awesome admin team have sent out a document this week outlining what to do in given situations, this has already given more clarity.

We are pleased that from October the 5th children will be able to get a hot school meal and I would like to clarify that we did NOT request packed lunches at any point. This was a decision imposed on us by our caterers.

We have had a request, from a parent, that Year 5 and Year 6 children who have a mobile phone for safety purposes (as they walk home alone) **do NOT use them to film other children without their permission**. I have asked staff to remind children that they should not be using their phones while on school premises and that any child found doing so will lose the privilege.

Just a reminder that if a pupil has pierced ears, **only plain gold or silver studs can be worn**. (For safety, these have to be removed during PE. If the pupil cannot remove the earrings, you must provide them with protective tape to be applied for PE lessons.)

I would also like to thank the PTA committee and volunteers for all the work they are already doing planning fundraising events for the schools over the coming academic year. Despite Covid-19 halting most of last term's events they still managed to raise a significant amount of money for the schools.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone and thank you for your on-going and enthusiastic support for our school.

Social Distancing & Face Masks

There have still been some issues this week with parents congregating at the end of the school day. We understand the desire to have a chat with friends but in order to ensure that we are minimising the risk of transmission, please leave the school site as soon as you have collected your child.

We are aware that some schools have mandated that parents wear a mask whenever they are on site. So far, we have chosen not to go down this route. There are two reasons for this: firstly, it's not a requirement under the current government guidance to wear a face mask or covering when outdoors, we would also prefer not to have to police this and if it were made mandatory, we would be placed in a position of challenging parents who had chosen not to wear one. The second reason is that as a school with a hearing resource base we feel it may not be inclusive for some of our children who may rely on facial cues and lip reading to communicate.

However, if wearing a face mask is something that makes you, as a visitor, feel more comfortable when you're on school premises then please feel free to do so.

Thank you for your understanding and support in keeping everyone safe.

Times Tables Rock Stars

To login into Times Tables Rock Stars go to www.ttrockstars.com/login/15813. Your child's username is the same as your Teams username (without the @emmbrook-jun bit) and the password is exactly the same as Teams. If you are using the free app, you'll need to tell it we are at Emmbrook Junior School (not the secondary school).

Try and help your child to learn their login and password as this will help them to access TTRS both at home and at school.

This week's Top Earners

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Oscar Earl	Abhinav Mannava	Chiami Calacday	Isabelle Mason

Overall Most Correct Answers

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Oscar Earl	Isabella Jones	Aidan Thomas	Eden Matthews

A big well done to this week's top earners. Don't forget you can challenge each other and your teachers to a 'Rock Slam'. Can anyone get as fast as the fantastic Mr Fox?

Anti-Racism



Why We Kneel

Harlequins fullback, Aaron Morris, wrote an open letter to all Quins fans discussing why the club and players continue to take a stand against racism.

You can find a link to the letter here:

<https://www.quins.co.uk/news/why-we-kneel/>

Covid-19 Testing

Main symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

What should I do if my child or someone in my household has symptoms?

It's important that if your child (**or anyone in their household**) has any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, they do not attend school and stay at home. You should arrange for them to get a test and tell your school the test results. This will help the NHS Test and Trace process. If you have a positive test result, your household should remain at home and follow the Test and Trace self-isolation guidance.

Web link to order a home test kit or book an appointment at a test site: <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

Online Safety

Password phishing - Password phishing is the process by which people try to find out your passwords so they can access protected content.

Talk to your children about why passwords are important and how to keep them safe. Discuss how others may try to trick you to reveal them. Do you know how to recognise phishing scams? For example; those that seek to gather login in credentials and passwords. A common scam is being sent an email asking you to click on a link and login as usual. The page you are taken to looks exactly like the one you would normally log into but it is in fact a fake webpage set up by the scammers.

Are you aware of the importance of online security to protect against viruses (such as keylogging) that are designed to access/steal/copy passwords information. Talk about what to do when a password is compromised or thought to be compromised.

Tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your child safe online

As a parent or carer, you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online. You don't need to be an expert on the internet to help keep your child stay safe online. Advice and resources are available to support you as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibly and positively.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

Well-being

Every Mind Matters

The new Better Health - Every Mind Matter Children and Young People's Mental Health campaign from PHE and partners has gone live.

It includes a new NHS-approved tips and advice for parents and carers to look after their children's mental wellbeing, developed in partnership with leading children and young people's mental health charities, including Young Minds, The Mix, Place2Be and The Anna Freud Centre.

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health/>

Year 6 Heart Dissection



In year 6, we were looking at the heart and Mrs Preston brought in some sheep hearts; we had to dissect them. At first, it wasn't very nice because they smelt like fish but once I touched I didn't mind it because it felt like hard jelly. Then each group got a scalpel to dissect the heart. The inside of the heart was really cool and there were heart strings and they were really white and I thought they would be covered in blood but they weren't. All of year 6 really enjoyed it and had an amazing time. – Megan

In year 6, we got an opportunity to dissect an ewe's heart. When we found out that our class was going to dissect a sheep's heart we were all so excited but scared at the same time. We all really enjoyed it because we got to learn about the heart strings and the chambers in the heart. It was quite cold when we touched it though but it was really cool because it was quite hard in some places. When we were looking at the heart, we saw that it was already cut in half so we didn't need to use the scalpel (knife) that much. I think this experience was amazing because we learnt so much more about our topic and I know that the whole class really enjoyed it and are also very grateful for it. - Amy



Year 5 Planetarium Visit

The classroom buzzed with excitement when it was finally time for Planetarium day. We all lined up in suspense. The whole class cautiously listened to Steve (the instructor). We all went through the tight, grey door. Five Pine all gasped in amazement as we stepped into the amazing solar system world beyond us. He instructed us to sit down in straight rows, where we stared at the beautiful planets. Before taking a spectacular trip to the solar system, we showed off our knowledge of Mars (as we are learning about this in English). We learnt all about different planets such as Mercury and Neptune. We then found out there are still planets being discovered today!

Five Pine all agreed the best part of our solar system tour was seeing Exo-planets because it was amazing to see how many planets there were and the variety of planets like the different colours, sizes and temperature. Overall, the Planetarium day felt surreal! - Iesha Briggs, Darcy Edwards and Annabelle Westrap

Last week, Year 5 started learning about space and the wonders that it holds. One day, we all experienced an amazing planetarium that came to our school. When Steve came to show us the planetarium, we learned about: planets, meteors and comets, we all thought it was lots of fun. When we started our trip to space the first planet we stopped at was Mercury we learnt that it was the smallest planet and Mars had an amazing reputation for its Olympus Mons. Another planet we visited was Jupiter. We learnt that it was the biggest planet and more. Would you like to learn about space? - Kuhu Sati and Kaarunya Sasitharan