

Emmbrook Junior School Newsletter

Friday 2nd July 2021

In this Edition:

- Message from Mr Usher
- Times Tables Rock Stars
- Racial Equity
- Parents' Forum
- Online Safety
- Parent Surveys
- Dates for your diary



Letters this week:

- Letter from Mr Usher re Positive Covid Case
- TA Vacancy
- Kendrick and Reading Schools Admission Tests (Year 5 only)
- Breakfast and After School Club Update
- Class Photos
- Year 6 Leavers Disco
- Scholastic Book Fair

Message from Mr Usher



A very big thank you to the PTA for their suggestion of a non-uniform day this week. As always, our parents and carers have been extremely generous **with many contributing more than the voluntary donation of £1**. These fund-raising initiatives contribute in a very real way to the educational provision the school is able to provide. We have already got the wheels in motion for our reading summer house and with the help of the school council have begun the (long & arduous) process of acquiring new play equipment for the children. These things take longer than we would like to organise with many hurdles to be leapt and boxes to be ticked. Our Y6 children leaving us this year, whose parents have helped raise much of the funds for these projects, may feel they are missing out, which they are, but they are leaving a fantastic legacy for the generations of children that will follow them through our school. **The PTA are**

still organising a Covid safe Y6 bubble only leavers party for the Y6 children which they thoroughly deserve. Again, thank you to the PTA for their incredible efforts.

Thank you to all our parents & carers who continue to **follow our requests regarding face coverings** on school premises. With the closure of a bubble this week it is clear that we still need to be vigilant and do all we can to reduce the chances of transmission and help ease any anxiety many members of our community may be feeling.

I must also **thank all the Year 6 parents & carers** for their support and understanding with the closure of the Y6 bubble this week. Contrary to what is reported in the media about schools, we absolutely do not wish to close bubbles and do our utmost to avoid doing so. However, when a case is identified **we closely follow the guidance and advice given by the Department for Education and Public Health England**.

You can find out about what the children are learning by looking at the [curriculum section of our school website](#), this is updated on an annual basis with details on the wider curriculum updated regularly. There will also be Virtual Welcome Meetings early in September where not only will all parents & carers have the opportunity to **meet their child's teacher**, staff will share what the children will be learning over the coming academic year, as well as any planned trips. They may also give you some ideas about how you can support your child's learning.

We have been working for some time on the academic calendar for next year and will endeavour to share it once it's complete. **This will include details of when we plan to hold assessment weeks** over the course of the year. These assessment weeks will only take place once a term and are used to support teachers' own assessments of children's progress. We understand that some children become anxious when doing tests, which is why staff encourage them to do their best while supporting the children appropriately.

The weather is still not looking great but hopefully we can all enjoy England winning their next match in the Euros.



Times Tables Rock Stars



Every week will be looking for the top earners and each half term those who score the most correct answers.

Year Group	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Weekly Top Earner	Matteo D-C	Charlotte M	Nathan S	Lucy H
Most Correct answers so far...	Matteo D-C	Isobel M	Nathan S	Lucy H

You can login in to Times Tables Rock Stars here: <https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/15813>.

Racial Equity

This week's learning share is from Mrs Brant

A Numbers Game - Ethnic Minority Children Disproportionately Identified with Special Education Needs

With minority ethnic pupils accounting for one third (30%) of school aged pupils in England, it can come as no surprise that some of these children and young people present with special educational needs (SEN). What might surprise you is that some ethnic groups are disproportionately identified with different types of SEN.

In 2019, a comprehensive study by Steve Strand, Professor of Education at Oxford found that:

- Black Caribbean and Pakistani pupils are over-represented for Moderate Learning Difficulty; Indian and Chinese pupils are under represented
- Asian pupils (Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Other Asian) are half as likely to be identified with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) as White British pupils
- Black Caribbean and Mixed White and Black Caribbean pupils are twice as likely to be identified with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs as White British pupils

Why should this be?

The report argues that lower awareness of autism, of parent's rights, linguistic barriers to access and cultural variation in social attitudes to disability have a role in the under-identification of Asian pupils with autism. School policies or factors seem to play very little role.

In contrast, variation between schools is more influential in the over representation of Black Caribbean students for SEMH, particularly in the secondary phase within high poverty schools, which may reflect different contexts, such as high crime rates or gang culture or school disciplinary strategies.

Implications for Emmbrook Junior School

At Emmbrook Junior School, we currently have 13.78% of pupils identified with SEND (Wokingham average 11.38%). This is a little below the national average of 14.49%.

Given the number of minority ethnic pupils at Emmbrook Juniors, it is questionable making generalisations about trends within SEN type. Our approach to SEND at Emmbrook Juniors continues to be needs-led following the robust procedures outlined in our policies.

We aim to provide excellent education for all our children, helping them develop confidence, skills, curiosity and understanding, to grow and progress academically, socially and emotionally.

Parents' Forum

EJS Parents Forum - new members needed!

From September we are looking for new members to join the Forum. The Forum meets for an hour once every half term with Mr Usher, to share the views, issues and compliments raised by parents. The meetings are also an opportunity for the school to gauge the opinion of parents.

We are looking for new members including a Chair and note taker:

Please contact ejsparentsforum@gmail.com for further details.



Online Safety



Rocket Royale is a multiplayer Battle Royale game that lets you play solo or with up to 25 players. The aim of the game is to find resources from a falling meteor and be the first player to build a rocket to help you escape the island. **Official age rating = 12yrs+**

Our overall rating for Rocket Royale - Poor

Rocket Royale is a cartoon style Battle Royale game. You can build on your own or in teams of up to three and matches take place with up to 25 other players. You can choose to play with friends or with random players.

The game does contain mild references to violence and weapons, including bullets, guns and explosions. Although there is a setting that lets you censor blood. There are also lots of ads on the game that might not always be suitable for kids.

When you create an account to play, you're assigned a random username. There is a public chat feature that lets players talk to each other during game-play. Be aware there are no reporting and blocking tools.

To find out about the latest apps, games and social media sites your children may be interested in or already accessing go to: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/>.

Ofsted Parent View



In advance of any possible visit from Ofsted in the coming year, it would be useful if parents could give their feelings about the school via Parent View. Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school, from the quality of teaching to dealing with poor behaviour.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

The survey can be completed at any time; you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected. **We only ask that if you do have any issues you raise them with us first so that we have a chance to address them.**

[If you would like to raise any issues or concerns with the school please use our communication flowchart to find out who you should talk to:](#)

Or if you have any general feedback you can contact the Parents' Forum: ejsparentsforum@gmail.com



Thank you to the parents/carers that have taken the time to complete our survey or the OFSTED parent view survey (16 parents have already contributed to this). The questions are identical to those on the OFSTED parent view survey, which you can also complete following the link that we share via the newsletter and website. You can still complete the survey on line either by clicking the link [Parent Survey](#) or scanning the QR code. We appreciate any time you are able to give us for this. The more responses we have the better we can act on any potential issues that we may be unaware of. The only difference

between the two surveys is that for the **OFSTED Parent View the information is available publicly and our own survey is used internally.**

Dates for your Diary

Summer Term

9th July 2021 – [EmmBOOK Fest \(dress as a book character\)](#) – see newsletter dated **11.06.21**

13th July 2021 – Governors' Day

15th July 2021 – Sports Day (No parent/carer spectators due to Covid restrictions – sorry!)

16th July 2021 – End of Year Reports out & **Year 6 Leavers' Party**

19th July 2021 – Optional Report Consultation Meetings



21st July 2021 – Last Day of Academic Year – **2pm finish**

Autumn Term 2021-22

1st Sept 2021 - Inset Day

2nd Sept 2021 - 1st Day of term

20th - 24th Sep 2021 – Manor Week

30th Sept 2021 – School Photo's

20th Oct 2021 – Flu Vaccinations

25th – 29th Oct 2021 - Half Term

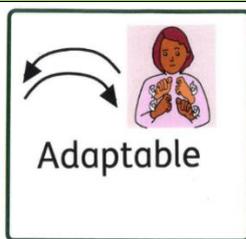
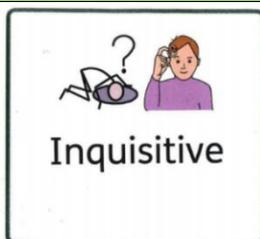
1st Nov 2021 – Inset Day

3rd Dec 2021 – PTA Christmas Fair & Non-Uniform Day

10th Dec 2021 - Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper day

17th Dec 2021 - Last day of term

At Emmbrook Junior School we are:



Amazon Wishlist

A huge thank you to everyone who has been kind enough to visit our school's Amazon wish list to order books and other resources for us.

We would like the opportunity to thank you individually for your generous contributions. In order for us to be able to do this, please add your name to the **'free personalised gift message'** that should appear when you click on the option to deliver the item to our school address (some of you have done this and you should get a thank you email). Alternatively, please let the school office know (via a quick email) when you have bought something. Thanks again. Your support makes such a difference.

Please click the link above or alternatively, please use the link:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1XCPWWH5UAPP0?ref=wl_fv_le

We really appreciate everything that you do to support and contribute to school life at Emmbrook Junior School. **Thank you so much from all of the staff and the children.**

