



Rushwick C.E Primary School
 Upper Wick Lane
 Rushwick
 Worcester WR2 5SU
 Tel: (01905) 422502
 E-mail: office@rushwick.worcs.sch.uk

Friday 4th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a rewarding and very emotive time for all the staff as we have welcomed back all the children in Years 1 to 6. Seeing and hearing happy and excited children back learning and playing communally in every part of the school is such an important landmark moment for us all.

Thank you all for helping us get to grips with the logistics of operating as a close to normal as possible in these unique and challenging circumstances. We are all reliant upon the whole community working together and remaining respectful of the carefully developed measures put in place to keep everyone safe so the way in which many of you are going out of your way to support us is a real lift.

There are bound to be teething problems but the children have coped superbly so far and each and every one of them is a credit to the Rushwick community.

From next week we are aiming to improve the staggered starts and finishing times. Please help us by:

- Informing the school office via email of the drop off and collecting times you are adhering to, if it is not possible to use the staggered time of the oldest sibling.
- Avoid entering the playground early or waiting at the entrance to the school gate before the appropriate drop off and collecting time.
- If you're delayed for any reason beyond the normal drop off time we ask that you escort your child over to a staff member on duty so that we can appropriately manage your child's start to the school day.
- If you know you are going to be late to drop off or collect, telephone or email the school office so that we can make teaching staff aware and avoid any unnecessary waiting around on the playground.
- If you have a message or need to speak to the class teacher at the beginning of the day, we ask that you approach myself or other adult on duty first.
- For urgent messages it is always best to telephone or go direct to the school office, or approach myself on the playground.

A reminder of the start and finishing times:

Years 1 and 2

Start: 8.55am Monday to Thursday Finish: 3.25pm Friday Finish: 12.45pm

Years 3 and 4

Start: 8.45am Monday to Thursday Finish: 3.15pm Friday Finish: 12.35pm

Years 5 and 6

Start: 8.35am Monday to Thursday Finish: 3.05pm Friday Finish: 12.30pm

Reception (from Monday 14th September)

Start: 9.05am Monday to Thursday Finish: 3pm Friday Finish: 12.15pm

Lunchtimes

There has also been a couple minor hiccups around the online catering orders for which Eat-Smart apologise and have remedied. This week inadvertently counted as Week 1 of the three week order cycle, so the w/c Monday 21st September will be the new Week 1 for the next cycle. We recommend booking the cycle of meals after the 11th September. The system should also have issued receipts for all orders but a glitch in the system prevented this from happening. This is also been addressed so everyone is hopeful this will happen in future. Please be advised that all meals including free, universal free meals for Years R to 2 and paid meals have to be ordered through the site directly.

Please use the link below for meal orders: <https://www.eatsmarteducatering.co.uk/rushwick/>

School Covid19 Safety Measures

- Keep your child/ren at home if anyone in the household has COVID-19 symptoms and access a test. (Apply online at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-tocheck-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or call 111 if you struggle with accessing via the internet or your local test centre). The Government guidelines for symptoms remains as follows: a new continuous cough, high temperature, loss of taste/smell.
- Engage with the NHS Track & Trace process, request a test for anyone who displays any symptoms. Inform school immediately of the results.
- Ensure your child/ren come to school dressed in their full school uniform each day and their PE kit on PE day.
- Ensure children visit the toilet and wash their hands directly before leaving for school and upon their return.
- Observe a social distance at all times within the school grounds and please do not allow younger children to leave your supervision.
- Read all the information carefully, bringing and collecting your child/ren at the stated times. This keeps everyone safe and avoids unnecessary pressure on staff as well as easing congestion on the school site.

Reading Books & Homework

This term at least, reading books will not be sent home as regularly due to the need to having to quarantine books on their return to school for a minimum of 72 hours. This will have more of an impact in KS1 than KS2.

Children on reading scheme books will be sent home with 2 new books on Monday, which need to be bought back to school on Friday, in order for them to be quarantined over the weekend. During the week we ask that children re-read the same books, which will help reinforce their phonics as well as develop other key reading skills such as fluency and expression Over the weekend the children can use the school's Oxford Owl subscription. They also have a free eBook library, which has been helping children develop their reading skills at home for years. As well as much-loved characters such as Biff, Chip and Kipper and Winnie the Witch, you'll also find some great non-fiction eBooks to

help your child explore their world. They have also added some books used in schools, such as the Oxford Reading Tree and Project X Alien Adventures.

Our subscription also gives you access to Oxford Owl's Word Sparks. Word Sparks is a series of partner texts designed for an adult to read one side of the page, and the child to read the other. This way, your child gets to hear richer and more complex language during the adult part, and then has the satisfaction of being able to read their part at their own level. To help you and your child at home, Oxford Owl have created audio versions of the partner text books, with actors reading out the adult and child text. These are ideal for a child to listen to as they read along in the printed book. You just click on the book your child wants to read and press the play button! There is a sound effect to indicate when your child needs to read.

Important information on how to access the Oxford Owl can be found on the school website but if you are having difficulties logging on, please don't hesitate to contact the school via the school office.

Homework

From this September, homework will be sent out differently due to new health and safety guidance. We will send homework out via the online learning platforms we used during home school. KS2 will be receiving their homework via Microsoft Teams and KS1 will be using Class Dojo. Children will get one spelling/phonics related piece and a maths piece per week. They will be encouraged to complete the work online and submit it via their online learning platform. Paper copies can be requested if you speak to your child's class teacher. In September you will receive a reminder letter from your child's new class teacher with information on how to access their new learning platform.

As usual, please speak to us about anything in this newsletter or if you have any other questions, suggestions or concerns.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Jeffrey (Headteacher)