

Ellingham Primary School Newsletter

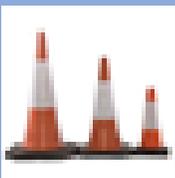
18th September 2020

Traffic cones wanted!

If any families have access to road barriers / traffic cones through their businesses and would be able to lend some to the school, please get in touch!

To ensure the safety of children and families, we have sectioned off additional space at the Harrow Close & Ellingham Road entrances. This system is working well but we need additional barriers.

If you are able to help or know of a local company who may help, please email the school office office@elp.rbksch.org



Important Messages:

We are so pleased to have all of the children back in school where they belong! Even in the short space of two weeks, we can see that energy levels have risen and engagement and stamina for learning is improving every day. It is wonderful to walk around the school and see so many happy faces enjoying their learning.

Thank you so much to parents and carers for working with us to ensure our drop off and pick up arrangements are swift and safe. As a result, we are reviewing the timings to make entry and exit even better to ensure that children can get to class promptly.

STAYING SAFE

Please can we urge parents and carers to walk children to school wherever possible. The safety of our community is our highest priority and reducing the number of cars we have coming into the car park and using Ellingham Road will help us to keep everyone safe.

We are pleased to see so many children cycling to school. Please can we remind parents and carers that children **MUST** wear a helmet. If children continue to cycle without head protection, they will not be permitted to cycle to school.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Due to Covid restrictions, children are unable to use water fountains in school. Please ensure your children have their own named water bottle in school with them every day. Hydration is so important for optimal learning and water is the best fluid for ensuring this.

Packed lunches should offer children a nutritionally balanced meal to give them the energy they need to play and learn. Please help us to help our children to make sensible food choices which give their bodies the best nutrition to grow and learn.



GOV.UK:

It is vital that educational settings only ask children or staff to self-isolate and recommend they get a test if they develop [symptoms of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#). Those sent home to self-isolate, having been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, should only get tested if they develop symptoms themselves. The symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Homework update

All children should now be bringing home a reading book and reading diary. Please ensure you read regularly with your child at home and use the reading diary to keep track of this. You will notice that children in KS2 will also bring home spellings to practise and will have a challenge set on *Times Tables Rock Stars*.

All children have been provided with log in details for this.

From next week, homework will recommence fully as it was before lockdown.

Children in KS1 and 2 will be given learning ideas and website links to try at home which link to English and Maths skills being covered in class. Vocabulary related to learning in the wider curriculum will be shared and in addition, *Times Tables Rocks Stars* and weekly spellings will be used in KS2.

In KS1, weekly spelling lists will be replaced by a *Sound of the Fortnight*. This links to our Sounds Write phonics programme. This will be accompanied by a selection of key focus words to support writing.

Homework will be emailed to families on Wednesdays and should be completed by the following Monday.



Huge congratulations to Chloe in Year Six who completed the Summer learning challenge to an exceptionally high standard. What a fantastic role-model you are!

Curriculum News

As we are unable to invite parents in to meet teachers and visit new classrooms as we would usually do in September, our teachers are busy putting together a Powerpoint presentation which will share information about the curriculum, talk through routines and expectations for year groups and give all families a flavour of what is going on in each classroom. We will let you know via email when these presentations are available to view.



Uniform Reminders

Please can we ask all families to ensure children are coming to school wearing full school uniform. As the weather starts to turn colder, children will need to wear an Ellingham sweatshirt or cardigan and a waterproof jacket or coat will be required.

All children should have plain black school shoes. Trainers may be worn at lunchtime however they should not be worn during lessons.

Long hair should be tied back and elaborate bows are not appropriate for school.

For those with pierced ears, small studs may be worn, however they should be covered for PE. No other jewellery should be worn in school.

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we can support you with providing full school uniform.

Dates for the diary:

Mon 26th Oct - Half term week commences

31st Oct - Secondary schools admission deadline

Mon 2nd Nov - INSET day. School closed to children

Tues 3rd Nov - School reopens for children

Frid 18th Dec - Last day of Autumn term

Mon 4th Jan - INSET day. School closed to children

Tues 5th Jan - School reopens for children