

Thursday 11th July 2019

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the final newsletter of the year. I don't think this year turned out as any of us expected, but I would like to thank you for your patience, understanding and support since September. If I don't get to speak to you personally before the end of term, I wish you a good summer and look forward to seeing you again in the autumn.

End of Year Results

As you may recall, back in January, we discussed with you the disappointing results from the last academic year and what we were doing to address the issues brought up as a result. I am pleased to now be in a position to share with you our end of year results from 2018-19:

EYFS Good Level of Development

2018		2019
Etwall	National	Etwall
75%	72%	84%

Phonics

2018		2019
Etwall	National	Etwall
80%	83%	85%

KS1 Reading

2018		2019
Etwall	National	Etwall
74%	76%	79%

KS1 Writing

2018		2019
Etwall	National	Etwall
67%	70%	76%

KS1 Maths

2018		2019
Etwall	National	Etwall
72%	76%	79%

KS2 Reading

2018		2019	
Etwall	National	Etwall	National
69%	75%	88%	73%

KS2 Writing

2018		2019	
Etwall	National	Etwall	National
82%	78%	86%	78%

KS2 Maths

2018		2019	
Etwall	National	Etwall	National
72%	76%	88%	78%

KS2 SPaG

2018		2019	
Etwall	National	Etwall	National
67%	78%	93%	79%

KS2 Combined

2018		2019	
Etwall	National	Etwall	National
56%	64%	81%	65%

Clearly this is good news and, in part, proves that what we have put in place is paying dividends, however the same key messages remain: results are only one part of what Etwall Primary School is about – we don't get too downhearted by poor results, nor too elated by good ones; our staff work incredibly hard year in year out and the effort they put in this year is no different to that of last year; as parents you make a huge difference to what we do as a collective and we thank you for your efforts; we are always looking for ways to improve our practice for the benefit of your children and this will be no different off the back of these results. That said, the staff, children and parents involved in this year's sets of results can be rightly proud of their achievements.





Is Your Child Entitled To Pupil Premium Funding?



As you may be aware, the issue of education funding has been in the news a lot recently, with schools facing reduced budgets alongside increased costs. At Etwall we are no different and a number of difficult decisions have had to be made regarding expenditure for 2018-19. The situation is not expected to improve in the foreseeable future, as the government seeks to reduce costs still

further.

One way that schools such as ours look to support pupils learning is through Pupil Premium funding, which allows us to provide additional support to pupils in a variety of ways throughout 2017-18, for example enrichment activities, in class support through Teaching Assistants, funding for inclusion and targeted interventions for pupils with additional needs. The bulk of our funding goes to provide specific support for Pupil Premium children through Teaching Assistants and dedicated intervention staff and, as such, is a key source of funding for the school.

People often see the Pupil Premium as 'Free School Meals' when, as we have shown, the reality is much more than that. By signing up for Pupil Premium funding, you will have a direct impact on improving the education of both your child and those across the school for the next 6 years.

Your child will receive:

- Additional support in the form of a Teaching Assistant in morning lessons on a daily basis
- Specific 'pre-learning' sessions from class teachers as appropriate
- Fully funded enrichment day visits
- Discounted wrap around care (breakfast and after school club)
- 50% funded extra-curricular activities such as sports, Imagineering and language clubs
- Fully funded music lessons should they wish to learn how to play a musical instrument
- Subsidies for residential visits
- Provision of free books relating to the interests of each child
- Contributions towards school uniform costs
- Free milk
- Free nutritious school meals on a daily basis

You are eligible for Pupil Premium funding if: you receive income support; income-based jobseekers' allowance; income-related employment and support allowance; support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; the guaranteed element of state pension credit; child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less; universal credit

You are also eligible if your child is defined in the Children Act 1989 as: one who is in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, an English local authority; children who have ceased to be looked after by a local authority in England and Wales because of adoption, a special guardianship order, a child arrangements order or a residence order; or has a parent who is in the armed forces

If you think you may be eligible for Pupil Premium funding, please contact the school office. We will happily discuss this with you and even fill the forms in on your behalf.

Please help us to help your child and their fellow pupils.





Before School Arrangements for September

EYFS

As discussed at the recent parents meetings, after the initial transition period you are welcome to stay and read with your child from 8:45am until 8:55am, at which point the bell will go and you will be asked to leave the classroom so that the children can begin their day.

Key Stage 1

These arrangements will remain as they were for last year, namely that you are welcome to come into school and read with your child from 8:45am. However, there have been a number of parents this year who have used this as a 'drop off' service and left their children unattended. If you are not reading with your child, it is your responsibility to monitor them on the playground until 8:55am. At this point, the bell will ring, the whistle will sound on the playground and you must take your child promptly to their classroom.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2, there will be some changes to arrangements as from September. Children will be asked to remain on the playground from 8:45am until 8:55am. When the whistle goes, the children will line up on the lower playground to be taken in by their class teacher. From 8:45am, the lower playground will continue to be used for pre-school games, with the remaining two playgrounds available to those children who prefer a quieter start to their mornings. If the weather is not suitable for being outside, children will be permitted to enter the building from 8:45am. The new arrangements will be reviewed regularly to ensure that they meet the purposes for which they were put in place.

We are asking parents not to enter the school building in a morning. We appreciate that this is not what people are used to and you may have some reservations, therefore I will detail the reasons why we have put this in place: First and foremost, we have looked at safeguarding procedures and the volume of adults in school in a morning makes it very difficult to monitor who is who; to stop exit points being left open; and to prevent people from using the wrong exits. We have a duty of care towards our children and we need to ensure we are doing everything we can to keep them safe and secure. Secondly, we have looked at the new Ofsted Inspection Framework and focused on the key area of personal development. Having discussed this as a staff, we feel that the trait of resilience is something that many of our children need to work on. Having them responsible for their own coat, bag, swimming equipment, letters etc. is something that will build this resilience and help them to become more independent learners.

Having said this, we recognise the value of regular discussions with class teachers, particularly in order to prevent smaller issues from becoming bigger ones through lack of communication. To this end, staff will be out on the playground from 8:50am to chat to parents.

It is envisaged that there will be some transitional arrangements in place for next year's Year 3 children. This will be communicated in due course via eSchools.

Exiting the School Building



A polite reminder that the front entrance doors should **only** be used if you need to speak to the admin staff in the school office. ***Please do not use this as an exit door in the mornings – Key Stage 1 are to use class external doors.***





End of Day Arrangements



If you are changing your child's end of school collection arrangements **as a one off**, please remember to tell your child's class teacher/TA in the morning. The school office receive many messages throughout the day about collection arrangements and it would really help if this was sorted in the morning with the teacher and not via the school office. However, we do understand that sometimes circumstances change during the day and a message has to come through. Please make any permanent changes on the home time arrangements form at the school office. A copy is then updated in class. Thank you.

PTFA



What a year it has been for the PTFA! From potentially disbanding in September, a number of volunteers have stepped up which has seen a continuation of the fantastic work carried out by the group, culminating in the Summer Fair raising in excess of £1,800! If you haven't already done so, don't forget to get hold of your Music Festival tickets, which provides further monies for both the school and Etwall Cricket Club. Once again our huge thanks go out to the PTFA – we really couldn't provide the quality of education we do without you.

Music Lessons



If you are interested in flute lessons, spaces may be available for pupils in Years 3 to 6 in September. Please contact Katie Smith for more information on 07904 124042.

Dates for Your Diary



We look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday 4th September for another year packed full of learning and fun. Until then, have a safe and restful summer.

From Mr Ormiston and all the staff at Etwall Primary School

