

Ellwood School News



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www.ellwoodschool.co.uk

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All Newsletters are also available on our website.

Transition Sessions

If you have requested a transition session for your child/ren for Friday 17th, you will be informed by email by Monday, of the time of your child/ren's session.

If your child is already in Mrs Aston's groups in the mornings for the stay in touch sessions, then they will be able to stay on for the transition session, but will need to bring a packed lunch. This information will be included in the letter that you will receive. Please ensure you adhere to the drop off and pick up timings due to the number of children on the school site that day.

If you have not heard about the times by Wednesday, please email admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk or contact the school office on 01594 833232.

Office News

Congratulations to Mrs Tait, who is expecting a baby and will go off on maternity leave at the end of September. Mrs Tait has been working from home as much as possible during the pandemic, to ensure we keep the risk of her catching the virus as low as possible.

Get well soon Mrs Pole! Mrs Pole has unfortunately been off school for quite some time due to an emergency operation. She is recovering well and we hope to see her back in September.

As you can imagine, due to the office staff not being present in school as often as normal over the last few months and on top of everything else going on, things have been a bit of a challenge! We apologise if there have been any problems with communication or lack of information. We have tried to keep things going as best we can. This has proved a little tricky at times, as there have been a lot of admin tasks to complete. Thank you for your patience at this time.

Please remember to email and leave a message if you need to contact us, as both email and telephone messages are checked regularly. We sometimes don't always make it to the phone in time to answer, but we are here and we will respond! Hopefully things should be a little more settled in September.

Please note that come September, the school will still not be having visitors onsite unless absolutely essential, eg social workers, health visitors etc. Parents will still need to communicate with us by phone or email.



September Plans

We are putting together plans for September, they will be shared with you next week. At the moment, all children will return for their normal full time hours but there will be guidance around certain measures put in place, such as staggered drop off and pick up times. Unfortunately, we cannot be complacent as the virus is still here and will be for some time, so we need to continue to be very careful and put every measure in place that we can so that we can protect the school community. This will obviously be much harder when we have 145 children and 25 staff back on a small school site at any one time. We can and will do it, but things will not be the same and we are sadly not back to normal circumstances. We need to ensure we protect all pupils and our staff.

Staff News

Mrs Jones and Miss Malsom (Teaching Assistants), both left a few weeks ago due to other opportunities and promotions.

We are sorry to see them leave and they were both very sad to be leaving Ellwood. However, we want them to progress and develop and would like to thank them both for their hard work and dedication to the pupils and the school.

Good luck!

Contact Information

In early September, we will send out the contact information sheets for parents/carers. Could you please make sure these are correct and return them with any corrected or additional information. If you have changed any telephone numbers, addresses, changed your email address or have any changes to make to medical information, please let us know asap. Our main communication method is via email but this only works if we have been given the correct details. You could be missing out on important information if you haven't given us up to date contact information. We want to ensure you receive all the necessary communication.

Please email any changes you need to make to admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk or phone and leave a message on 01594 833232.

Thank you!

Online Learning Platform

Please make sure you remember your log in credentials, as if the school suddenly had to close due to the virus and we were put back in to a lockdown situation, this is the way the children would access their home learning activities. It is up to parents to be able to access this information for their children.

The platform won't be used in the same way in September as it has been, but will be used as a back up if school were to close. We are considering using it as a homework platform but this needs more consideration. We will keep you informed in the Autumn if we decide to go ahead with this.

Thank you!

Thank you to all the staff for their hard work and eagerness to give the children the opportunity of returning in some form before the end of the summer term - an amazing achievement and logistical headache but we have done it and we are pleased we did!

It has been lovely to see the children return and those that have been in school have been having a great time, school has felt like school again!

At one stage, we had over 70 children attending in one day and should have around 100 pupils in on the last day of term, at different times throughout the day. This is a lot of work as you can imagine. We are very proud of our staff and our pupils for making it work!

We would like to say thank you to Mr Mainwaring our caretaker, for helping to organise the school site and for cleaning the school. A thank you also, to Mrs Gilmour for cleaning the school so well. This all goes on behind the scenes but is so important! This is probably one of the most important jobs at this current time and they are working so hard to ensure that the school site is clean, even down to small things such as cleaning light switches, door handles and anything else the staff and children may have touched! This is a huge task and the midday supervisors have also been going above and beyond to help with cleaning. Thank you for helping us all to keep safe!

