



St. Edmund's Catholic Primary School

Hertford Road, Edmonton, London, N9 7HJ

Phone 0208 8072664

Facsimile 0208 8078877

Office@St-edmunds.enfield.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Jackie Johnstone, B.Ed Hons

Deputy Headteacher: Mr. Patrick Kenny, BA

11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Autumn Term.

Firstly, I would like to say how much we, as a school, appreciate all the support and kind words that we have received since we have returned to school. I would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding, as we continue to make adjustments to our entry and exit systems to and from school. Our aim is to keep our whole school community as safe as possible. This starts with you arriving promptly at specific times, following our directions and ensuring that your children only bring what is absolutely necessary each day.

I have been so impressed with the children, some returning for the first time since March and all of them adapting to the changed school environment so well.

Since the Government relaxed the social distancing restrictions for children and said that they must all return to school, we are once again able to teach full classes. We are, however, required to organise the children into 'bubbles'. We have organised the school into year group bubbles. This means that children can interact with other children in their bubble without causing concern, but we endeavour that they do not mix with children from other year group bubbles.

Therefore the organisation of a school day has changed greatly. Bubbles have different playtimes, lunchtimes, toilets allocated and stairways to use. Children wash their hands on entry to school, after playtimes, before they eat and of course after going to the toilet.

All school lunches at the moment continue to be a packed lunch meal. This is because to serve hot meals we would need to clean the hall between year group bubbles. We do not have the capacity to do this, so packed lunches are distributed and eaten in the classrooms. We will keep the situation under continual review and reintroduce a hot meal service as soon as we are able to safely do so.

Advice from NHS

<https://www.nhs.uk/>

Coronavirus in children-Children can get coronavirus (COVID-19), but they seem to get it less often than adults and it's usually less serious.

Symptoms of coronavirus in children

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal



What to do if your child has symptoms

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Do **not** send your child to school
2. Ring NHS111 to book a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible
3. Inform the school as soon as possible that you or your child are going for a test
4. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test.
5. Anyone you live with must also stay at home until you get the result.
6. Inform the school of the result as soon as you receive it

If a member of any bubble in the school tests positive the parents of the children in that bubble will be informed.

Breakfast Club

To re-open our Breakfast Club we must make sure that we still maintain the protective measures in place across the school. This means that although we can reopen our Breakfast Club, we can only do so if we can find a way that we can do this while ensuring that children from different class bubbles do not mix with each other.

I am really pleased to say that, after much consideration and planning, we are hoping to be able to offer a limited Breakfast Club on the following basis:

- In order to ensure that there is adequate staffing in place, Breakfast Club places will need to be booked and paid for a week in advance and we will not be able to accept children who turn up on the day without a place booked.
- If you book for sessions and you do not attend you will still be charged
- The cost is £2.20 per session per child.
- The Club will open from 7.45 and close at 8.30
- Children must be dropped off at the hall door by an adult.
- Children will be offered a healthy breakfast of cereal, toast and juice/milk.
- Keeping bubbles apart is very difficult in one hall. Year groups will have an allocated table and will remain seated there for the whole duration of the Breakfast Club. They will no longer go outside to play after eating because the bubbles cannot mix.
- A range of tabletop activities will be provided to keep the children occupied and socially distanced from children in the other bubbles.

Please think very carefully before applying for Breakfast Club and only commit if you really absolutely need the service.

We continue to subscribe to the Magic Breakfast scheme which means that bagels will be available to ALL children on arrival at their allocated times from Monday 21st September. This will continue to be provided at no cost.

We hope to start Breakfast Club on Monday 28th September but we will be in touch to confirm this date when we have received the slips at the end of this letter.



I look forward to working with you all during this year and pray to God our loving Father,

God our Father,

We give you praise and thanks for everything that is new and beautiful .

Bless us as we begin this new year with our friends.

Bless our teachers and all who help us in our school.

Bless our families who love and care for us.

May our school be a happy place where we can grow together in body, soul and mind.

May the beginning of this school year remind us that you love us and hold us in the palm of your hands.

Thank you for your love for each one of us.

Amen.

Best wishes

Johnstone

Mrs. Johnstone

Acting Headteacher

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Please return the slip below by Wednesday 16th September if you require Breakfast Club

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I have read the changes to the Breakfast Club provision from September and would like to provisionally book the following spaces:

Child / children's name and class(es)

I will need provision on the following days (please circle required days)

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Parent name and signature

