

Dear Parents,

Phased Reopening of the school

It has been yet another interesting week in our journey together. I can confirm that we are ready to welcome the Reception children back to school on Monday, the Year 1 children from 22 June and the Year 6 children from 29 June. I will be writing to these groups separately regarding the arrangements and how these parents can prepare their children for a 'new norm' at Egerton. Year 1 parents will receive information on Thursday 18 June and Year 6 on Thursday 25 June.

The school will be working at full capacity from 29 June when Year 6 join us and all staff that are able to work will be in school. I want to say that this has only been possible because of the commitment and hard work of every team member. Mr Buckley has been my right hand man and with the staff we are ready.

Welcoming new people to Egerton

We have been in touch with the families of the new Reception children who are due to start this coming September. Instead of the parents' welcome evening, normally held in our school hall, we recorded a zoom meeting instead! This is now on our school website and their welcome packs have been posted. As we move through the coming weeks and months I am really hoping that we are moving towards some form of normality and we will be able to open as normal in September – fingers crossed!

New Staff

I am absolutely delighted to announce that three new members of staff will be joining us this coming September. In fact, they have already joined the staff on a zoom meeting, and many more are planned! All three teachers' philosophy complements that of our school.

Mrs Taylor Wattam will be joining Miss Renton in teaching Reception. She is a highly experienced early years practitioner and has known Egerton for many years as she was the lead teacher for global learning at her previous school – one that I have worked closely with over many years.

Miss Thorpe will be covering Mrs Sumser's maternity leave. She is an outstanding graduate in all areas and is so eager to start she will be working this half term in supporting the Key Workers' children from 15 June. Mrs Sumser and Miss Thorpe have already hit it off and have started planning for the Autumn term!

Mr Pettit is a highly experienced teacher who is making the move from Cambridge with his family to come back to his roots in Cheshire. He graduated in Philosophy and Literature and went on to complete a Masters Degree in Contemporary Literature and Culture before embarking on his teaching career 7 years ago. He is highly creative and is eager to get started.

Class Organisation from September 2020

Organising the school during such unique times is challenging. The children not being in school for the final term of a school year is a significant factor. Therefore, continuity for the children is top priority. The curriculum and the challenges around this continuity are significant too. We have a great team of teachers at Egerton and the new teachers joining us have a great deal to contribute. Mrs Taylor-Wattam and Miss Renton are highly experienced early years practitioners. Miss Dixon and Miss Garvey are experienced KS1 teachers and work together throughout a year in planning.

Miss Capper has been in Year 6 for some years now and wishes to experience Year 5, which is fantastic for these children as she is a great position to prepare them for Year 6. Miss Babinska taught in Year 6 for many years in her previous school and achieved some of the highest standards in the country so she is well placed to take her class forward to support them in ensuring continuity from Year 5 into Year 6, especially following being at home for the final term of Year 5.

A great deal of time and thought goes into this and in the 15 years as Headteacher I have not gone into such detail regarding my decision making as this is my responsibility. However, I believe these unique circumstances require this. I am sure that you all know me well enough to appreciate that all decisions are in the best interests of your children and the bigger picture of the school and its future.

Reception – Miss Renton and Mrs Taylor Wattam

Year 1 – Miss Dixon

Year 2 – Miss Garvey

Year 3 – Miss Thorpe

Year 4 – Mr Pettit

Year 5 – Miss Capper

Year 6 – Miss Babinska

National Book Tokens Prize Draw

By simply nominating our school in a prize draw means that you would have the chance to win our school book tokens – a valuable prize in many ways!

You could win £5,000/€5,000 of National Book Tokens for your school's library – and if your entry is picked, you'll also get £100/€120 of National Book Tokens to spend on yourself!

Whether you work in a school or have school-aged children yourself, you'll know the importance of a good school library – and not just for learning. Studies show that reading for pleasure doesn't just give children an advantage academically; it can improve their wellbeing, too.

Just follow the link below and complete the form.

Please ensure you write 'Egerton Primary Knutsford' as there are 3 Egerton Primary Schools in England.

<https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools>

Egerton Lockdown Cookbook

The deadline to submit recipes for our cookbook is today via: admin@egerton.cheshire.sch.uk

Once this book has been printed we will be in touch regarding how to order and pay.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a restful weekend.

Chester Zoo

I am sure you will join me in thanking Mr Webb for his drive this week to support Chester Zoo in raising much needed funds. Look out for the forfeit video tomorrow. There are some very special guests!

Best wishes

Alison Hooper
Headteacher