



Plans for September 2021!

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well and safe. We have tried to imagine some of the questions that you may have asked if you had been able to join us on our usual non-Covid parent day. We have put these into this newsletter and hope the information we give you will help you prepare you and your child for the move to EJS.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

What time does school start and end?

- For Year 3 children, school will start at 9.00 prompt on **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND 2021** and they will be the only year group in school that day so as to give them a little time to adjust to their new surroundings without it being too busy.
- All other year groups will join us on **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD 2021**.
- Due to Covid restrictions we still have to have staggered start and end times to the day.
- Year 3 and Year 4 children, Lower School, need to be at the school gate at 9.00 and NOT before. They will then walk across the car park, where all staff will already be parked. They will wash their hands in their designated sanitation area and then be greeted by their teacher and support staff member.
- Year 5 and Year 6 children, Upper School, need to be at the gate at 9.15 and NOT before. They will then walk along the terrace, wash their hands in their designated sanitation area and be greeted by their teacher and support staff member.
- At the end of the day Year 3 and Year 4 children, Lower School, will come to the gate at 3 o'clock and should be collected from there by an adult to walk home.
- At the end of the day Year 5 and Year 6 children, Upper School, will come to the gate at 3.15 to walk home.
- Kevin Bell will be at the gate to supervise the safety of our children.

What if I need to tell school something about my child?

- Again, due to Covid we have had to change how we communicate with parents. Due to advice from PHE England is that there should be no visitors including parents on the school site.
- **We are now a paperless and cashless school. All communications and payments need to be electronic.**

- To communicate directly with your child's class teacher you will be able to use your child's individual online learning platform **SEESAW**.
- Should you need to telephone school on **01900 812330** you will hear an answer machine message asking you to leave your number so that staff can ring you back as soon as possible. It helps if you can leave a short message as to your concern about your child or query, so that we can make sure the right person rings you back.
- In emergency situations or during school closures you can also ring, leave a message or text on the school mobile - **07449 444929**
- You will be able to use our Teachers2parents (T2P) service to text and email school on parents@ewanrigg.cumbria.sch.uk School will similarly use this service to text and email you.
- You could also look on our website - <https://www.ewanrigg.cumbria.sch.uk>
- I would strongly advise that you join our school Facebook Page, which is a secure closed site. Search for us on Facebook - [Ewanrigg Junior School Official Facebook Page](#). For security purposes you will then be messaged by me, Yvonne Craig, the Head Teacher to check your link to our school, before being admitted to the page, which is full of photos and information about EJS.
- **PLEASE DO NOT USE FACEBOOK MESSENGER AS A WAY OF COMMUNICATING WITH SCHOOL AS THESE MESSAGES CAN OFTEN BE MISSED.**
- Please only contact staff during school office hours - term-time, Monday to Friday, 9.00- 5.00 and please do not be offended if queries out of these hours are not answered.
- EMERGENCY CONTACT REGARDING COVID CASES OR ISOLATION NEED TO BE ON covid@ewanrigg.cumbria.sch.uk or leave an answer machine message with your number for us to call you back.
- You can come up to the school gate and ring the bell that is at the side of said small gate. This will connect you to the school office who will then be able to deal with your query.

What should my child wear for school?

- Our uniform is very simple, inexpensive and primarily based on colours.
- On non-PE days your child should wear a red jumper, fleece, sweatshirt or cardigan either with or without the school logo.
- The jumpers etc with the school logo can be purchased from West Lakes Embroidery which can be found on Facebook - 01900 817799 - 69, Senhouse Street, <https://www.westlakesembroidery.co.uk> but you can also purchase your child's uniform, without logo, at supermarkets therefore giving you a wide range of prices to choose from.
- Your child should also wear a white polo shirt, with collar, which again can have or not have the logo and can be purchased similarly to the jumpers.
- Trousers, skirts or pinafores should be black - as should shoes, boots or trainers. Shoes and trainers should not have any logo so as to reduce any chance of children

comparing how much trainers have cost. You can blame us for you not having to pay a fortune for named trainers!

- In summer children may choose to wear red and white gingham dresses that can be purchased at local supermarkets or three-quarter length black dress shorts or culottes.
- Please do not send your child to school in leggings or jeans.
- Your child, particularly in winter, should bring a coat to school as the weather can change very quickly.
- PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHES ARE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAMES OR INITIALS AS STAFF CANNOT SPEND VALUABLE LEARNING TIME SEARCHING FOR NON-IDENTIFIABLE CLOTHES! WE ARE NOT YET QUITE MIND READERS. This can be done on the inside ticket with permanent marker pen - embroidery name tags or at west lakes embroidery - your child's initials can be stitched into the item of clothing. Please remember to check regularly as frequent washing can make names unreadable.

What should my child wear for PE?

- On the days that your child does PE they will come to school in their PE kit and stay in it throughout the day.
- This makes life easier for yourselves and for us as we do not lose precious learning time changing uniform and looking for lost items of clothing.
- On PE days, your child should wear a white T-shirt with or without logo, red shorts and during winter your child may like to wear black skins under the shorts or black tracksuit bottoms. Again black trainers with no logo please.
- Any school team PE Kits for matches etc will be provided by school.

What should my child bring to school?

- Due to Covid, we have again had to change what we can and cannot allow our children to bring to school, in order to reduce the chance of transmission.
- All your child needs to bring to school is a bag every day, preferably a backpack or rucksack, their snack, a water bottle and their packed lunch should that be their lunch option.
- All other equipment including pens, pencils, rulers, and books etc. will be provided by school.
- Your child should not bring toys or balls etc to school
- Each child will be given an individual pencil case, book wallet, and classroom tray for locker for individual use - again saving you a fortune and cutting down the chance of losing items.

What if my child needs medication in school?

- If your child needs to have specific medication in school - such as an inhaler on EpiPen - these will need to be kept safely by the staff. Please ring the school office for a call back so we can arrange for you to drop things off at school

How do I pay for school lunch?

- EJS is now a cashless school, again a change we had to make due to Covid.

- You can pay for school lunches using the Teachers2parents (T2P) app which is free for you to download.

How do I know what's going on at school?

- Staff endeavour to put photographs on our school Facebook page every day so I strongly advise that you join that as soon as possible.
- We have another app called "OUR SCHOOLS APP" which serves as a calendar for you to look at.
- You will also receive email and text updates and information via Teachers2parents (T2P) and your child's learning online learning platform SEESAW.

Who will be teaching my child in September?

| CLASS | TEACHER | SUPPORT STAFF |
|--------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| CLASS 1 | MRS CHILTON | MISS BAKER |
| CLASS 2 | MISS SHEPHERD | MRS BIRKETT |
| CLASS 3 | MR RITSON | MRS HUNTON |
| CLASS 4 | MRS MCGLASSON | MRS ANDERSON |
| CLASS 5 | MR HOPE | MISS HERBERT |
| CLASS 6 | MISS LANCASTER | MRS HAMPSON MRS LISTER |

- You can find photos of us all and my Head Teacher welcome on our website page along with all the other members of staff
- Children will find out their new classes on Wednesday July 7th 2021.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- We are very aware that this is a time of great change for both you and your child, made even more complex by all the Covid rules and regulations, many of which are out of the control of schools.
- I will further update you by email towards the end of August when we are told by the government how school life is to be during the autumn term as none of us can yet predict what that may look like.
- I suggest that you have a good look at our website page and join our Facebook page as soon as possible.

We are all truly looking forward to working again with you and your child helping your child to "be all you can be." We aim to encourage your child to look, listen, learn, love and laugh every day as we help them through this stage of their educational journey.

In other news, we say goodbye to a much loved member of the EJS family this year. After 50 years of service to education, Mrs Dawson has decided to retire and will be moving way to the north of Scotland to be with her family. We are all aware of what a big hole Mrs Dawson will leave as she is a key member of staff here but we all wish her

well with her new Highland Adventures, secure in the knowledge that once EJS family - always EJS family. There is no escape, Mrs D! XXX

We have also lost Mrs Wallace to a new career and Mrs McAllister has welcomed her baby girl to the world. We said goodbye to Miss Bowman yesterday, whose baby is due in the next two weeks. Exciting times.

I thank you all for all of your patience and tolerance again this year, for what has been another year of ups and downs. I particularly thank staff, governors and children for their flexibility and adaptable through these changing times. I had the pleasure of spending the afternoon with Class 2 yesterday and it has been the best medicine I have had during the last six weeks with my broken wrist. The enthusiasm and smiling faces of your children make all the hard work so worthwhile.

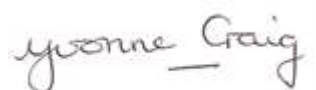
I can only apologise that we have not been able to have parents on site again this year and for the events that the children have missed out on. We have tried to do as much as we can in the given Covid circumstances and apart from our usual trips, visits and swimming, have attempted to give each child the best we can.

To compensate for some of the lost time and excitement of this year, we adapted our curriculum and consequently have vastly improved our school grounds to include a new Summer House Library and masses of grassed areas for the children to play on. The introduction of the outdoor sand pit, relaxation areas, an outdoor stage and space is a huge bonus and wonderful legacy for our children now and in the future.

We have no idea yet what Covid restrictions and freedoms we are going to have from September but please be reassured that we are working desperately hard behind the scenes to make school as smooth, engaging and "normal" as we can for your most precious possessions - your children and I thank you for trusting us with them. It is indeed a privilege to be involved with such lively and enthusiastic little people.

I hope you have the best summer you can and look forward to seeing you all - online or in person maybe - in September? I will be in touch late August with any updates. Stay well and stay safe.

Kind regards and stay safe and well,



Yvonne Craig
Your Head Teacher

DIARY OF UP AND COMING EVENTS!

Please use the "Our School's App" and Facebook to check for calendar events!

Wednesday July 7th

- Annual written reports to parents will be emailed out to parents and put on your child's SEESAW
- Children will find out their new classes for September
- You will receive an introductory phone call from your child's new September teacher between this date and the end of term

Thursday July 15th

- Whole School Annual Presentation Award Ceremony - Facebook Live - outside
- Y6 Leaver's Outside Party Celebration Afternoon where children will receive their Y6 Gift Bag and Party Bag - they can sign shirts and autograph books. Outdoor games and music will be provided

Friday July 16th

- Activity Day - sorry - nothing can be brought from home - Covid regulations
- Y6 staff Guard of Honour - clap offsite in the car park
- **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 1.00 PM - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU MAKE THE NECESSARY SAFE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR CHILD FOR THIS TIME**

