



Hathern C of E Primary School

Weekly Update

Friday 27th August 2021

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Happy New (Academic) Year

Welcome back to a new term and a brand new year at Hathern CE Primary!

We start by warmly welcoming Miss Nicholls (Year 4) and Mrs Blackwell (Year 5) to the teaching body and Mrs Bunn, Miss Potts and Miss Harrison to our amazing team of Learning Support staff. They already feel like established members of the Hathern Family.

This year begins as we learn to live with Covid in the community. As a maintained school, we are governed by National and Local Government guidance. To this end, we are attempting to deliver as 'normal' an education as possible for your children in line with the most up-to-date guidance. Therefore we are retaining our enhanced hygiene strategies whilst reintegrating our children and families back into normal school life. This is likely to present challenges along the way, but we are confident that we will overcome them.

It has been amazing to be able to meet and greet in the mornings again after such a long absence and meet some parents for the first time as well as many familiar faces.

Here's to a fantastic year, Steve Dunn - Headteacher

Additional Bank Holiday to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

On 2nd June 2022, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will become the first British Monarch to celebrate her Platinum Jubilee, celebrating 70 years on the Throne. Both local and national events will centre around an extended weekend – the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th June. As part of the celebrations, the government have declared an additional Bank Holiday. However, as this falls within the half-term break for schools in Leicestershire an alternative date has been chosen.

The official day for Leicestershire maintained schools to use as an additional holiday in respect of the Platinum Jubilee has now been agreed as **Friday 8th July 2022** (the last teaching day of the academic year). This means that **school will now finish for the end of the Summer Term on Thursday 7th July 2022**, not Friday 8th as previously advertised.

For more information visit <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/platinum-jubilee>

Getting to School Safely

With us having almost **190 pupils** now at Hathern, getting to school safely in the morning is becoming more and more challenging.

Pasture Lane and Cross Street are not designed for the amount of vehicular traffic they receive at

drop-off/collection times and consequently there is an increased risk of an accident taking place. I would ask parents to remind their children to **look both ways when crossing driveways and roads**, whether walking or cycling/scooting. Where children scoot or cycle, please ensure they do so with regard for others, scooting/riding carefully (slowly) to avoid pedestrians (if on the paths). Secure bike/scooter parking is available at Pasture Lane.

I would also request that, **whenever possible, the children should walk to school**—the exercise would be an added benefit! If walking is out of the question, then could I suggest that parents park a little further away and walk the last part of the journey.

If you must drive, then please consider the safety and wellbeing of other road users, our neighbours and more importantly, our pupils walking to school, by adhering to a few guidelines:

- *drive slowly along the roads—especially along Pasture Lane
- *do not mount or drive along the pavements
- *do not drive into, or reverse into the main gated entrance at Pasture Lane
- *do not park in the school car park
- *act with consideration for others at all times.

If you are concerned about a car being driven or parked without care or attention at either site, then I would suggest that you report it to the Police, as the school has no power beyond the gates to do anything about it other than to ask respectfully for consideration for all users.

We spend a lot of time teaching our children about our CARE Code (Cooperation,

Awareness, Respect and Enjoyment) and we would hope that parents would share our ethos, even in the most testing circumstances, such as at drop off and pick up after school!

The safety of our children is incredibly important and even if these strategies are only employed occasionally, it will make a great difference overall in improving the situation.

Thank you for your continued support.



School Meals for Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Although meals are no longer free, many of our children in Key Stage 2 continue to enjoy a school meal. We have a wide choice of meals available including a meat option, vegetarian option, jacket potato and grab-bags (packed lunches) for those not wanting a hot meal.

Meals cost £2.40 per day/ £12.00 per week and children choose from a menu which changes every three weeks. Meals can be taken as one-offs or daily depending on preference. Payment can be made via SchoolMoney, in cash or by cheque direct to the office.

Contact Sharon in the office for a copy of the menu or for further details about ordering meals. Some pupils may be eligible for Free School Meals if you (as a parent) are in receipt of certain benefits—visit <https://goo.gl/BapVAW> for further details— or again, speak to Sharon in the office for advice.

Healthy Snacks and Nut Allergies

As we are a Healthy School, could you please ensure that if you do send a snack for your child to eat, it is a healthy one, such as malt loaf, dried or fresh fruit, Scotch pancakes, (sugar free) fruit bars, *etc.* and not chocolate biscuits, crisps or sugary snacks.

Children in Foundation, Year 1 and 2 will receive a free piece of fruit for snacktime. This varies from apples to pears, tomatoes to raisins.

I would also ask that you **do not send products containing nuts** into school at any time (including lunches), as we have some pupils with allergies.

Start and finish times

Not surprisingly there has been some confusion about the arrangements for the start and end of the school day.

- At Pasture Lane— children in Years F, 1, 2, 3 and 4 - the school gates open at 8.45am with registration at 8.55am. Children in Years 3 and 4 will enter their classrooms a few minutes earlier to ease congestion on the playground.
- At Cross Street— children in Years 5 and 6 - the school gates open at 8.40am with registration at 8.50am.

Staff will be available in the mornings for the passing on of messages, catching up, etc. Please do not leave your child unsupervised on either playground until you can see their classteacher is present.

At the end of the day, children are dismissed from their classroom doors.

- At Pasture Lane this will be at 3.15pm.
- At Cross Street this will be at 3.20pm.

Children will not be allowed to leave the school site until staff see the collecting adult. If you wish your child to walk home alone then please get in touch with the office so that we can inform relevant staff.