



ENGAINES PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEWSLETTER

Summer term 2021

Telephone: 01255860210 Email: admin@engaines.essex.sch.uk

Confident
Happy
Empathetic
Resilient
Inquisitive
Supportive
Honest

Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to take this opportunity to praise all the children and say how proud we are of them all. They returned to school after Easter ready and eager to learn and have dealt brilliantly with all the disruption they have experienced over the past few terms due to the pandemic. Hopefully in September we can start to return to normal routines as soon as possible, inviting everyone back into school for good work assemblies, stay and read and sharing work sessions. We really miss being able to meet and celebrate your children's work with you. Fingers crossed we will be able to begin this again during the autumn term.

We would like to share with you some changes to the staffing team in September. Mrs Kate Wainwright and Mrs Mandy Elmer will be leaving the teaching profession for new adventures. Mrs Wainwright has taught at Engaines for 24 years and will be greatly missed. Mrs Elmer has taught at the school for 8 years. Both ladies have played a huge part in the life of the school, teaching a range of year groups, being part of the senior management team as well as supporting the children to achieve their best. We will all miss them very much and wish them every success for the future.

We welcome to the team Miss Laura Bailey who comes to us from a school in Colchester. She is very experienced and has already been working in school alongside staff to familiarise herself with the school. Miss Kirsty Chapman will also be joining us as an early careers teacher. She has also been working in school for the past few weeks and has settled into the team brilliantly.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Ann-Marie Steele who worked as a LSA in year 3. She leaves us to begin a new job and we wish her all the best. We have three new LSA's joining our team this year; Mrs Tracey Barling, Mrs Alison Snow and Mrs Annette Baynes. All three ladies have at least ten years experience each in primary education and we are very excited to welcome them as members of the team.

At Engaines our admission number is 38. As the DFE states that class sizes in KS1 cannot exceed 30, this means that we have no choice but to have mixed year group classes throughout the school; as it has been for the past 20 years. Every year we look closely at the needs of each year group and arrange the classes accordingly, in order to address these needs.

Classes will always have a range of ability, even those that are just one year group. As the children progress up the school, the range of abilities within the class often increase, for example in year 6 some children could be working at year 7 level whilst some will be working significantly lower. Teachers are trained to ensure all pupils needs are met.

This year the Reception class will be split into two classes to ensure we can give the children the best start possible. This will impact on the rest of the classes as we will in effect have an extra class. This will mean that numbers in each class will be kept as low as possible in comparison to previous years where some classes had 32 children.

We will be extending the EYFS area during the summer holidays to enhance the outdoor provision available for the children in the two classes.



The latest stage of the government roadmap came into force on Monday 19th July 2021. Although restrictions have begun to lift, we will still continue to follow certain measures in school to keep the community safe. These will stay in place whilst the number of COVID cases in the local area remain high. The guidance recommends that face masks are still worn in crowded areas and for this reason we will ask you to continue wearing a mask when on school site.

In September we will continue bubbles but they will be expanded to phase bubbles. This will ensure the children have the opportunity to play with all their friends in the corresponding year group classes at break and lunch times.

As new guidance arrives throughout the summer break, we will update the school's risk assessment ready to share with you in September. Any changes of plan will be shared with you as soon as we are able.

September dates:

EYFS (Nursery and Reception classes) will start school on Monday 6th September. All parents have been sent their start times.

KS1 and KS2 will return on Thursday 2nd September. Their arrival times will be as follows: Gates will be open from 8.40 am. All children need to be in school for the close of register at 9.00 am. This will give a 20 minute window for arrival, easing the traffic around school.

KS1 will enter through the school car park and wait at the gate where staff will meet the children

KS2 will enter through main reception and into class.

In order to reduce amount of people onsite departure times will be as follows:

Reception	- 3.00 pm - EYFS gate
Mr Yeldon + Mrs Cater/Mrs Laurence	- 3.10 pm - Car park gate
Mrs Last	- 3.10 pm - Class door on playground
Miss Chapman + Miss Warnes + Miss Tattum	- 3.10 pm - Main reception
Mr O'Brien + Mr Rosset + Miss Bailey	- 3.20 pm - Main reception

Phase leads:

EYFS	Mrs Teatheredge	KS1	Mrs Last
LKS2	Miss Warnes	UKS2	Mr Rosset

As a school we no longer automatically need to close a bubble if someone in it proves positive for COVID. The NHS track and trace have taken this responsibility and they will contact the relevant people, asking them to self-isolate.

In September we will ask you to let us know if your child has symptoms of COVID and we will follow the DFE guidance and ask you to book a PCR test. You will be asked to keep your child at home until the results of the test. If the result is negative then your child can come back to school. If the test is positive then you will be asked to self isolate for 10 days by NHS track and trace.

Classes for 2021—2022 will be as follows:

Nursery	- Mrs Ann Williams
Reception	- Mrs Sally Teatheredge
Reception/Year 1	- Mrs Liz Nunn
Year 1	- Mrs Hannah Cater/ - Mrs Kate Laurence
Year 1/Year 2	- Mr Matt Yeldon
Year 2	- Mrs Simone Last
Year 3	- Miss Kirsty Chapman
Year 3/Year 4	- Miss Mary Warnes
Year 4	- Miss Angela Tattum
Year 5	- Mr Richard O'Brien
Year 5/Year 6	- Mr Paul Rosset
Year 6	- Miss Laura Bailey



School uniform

During the pandemic, we have had to make several changes to routines, one of which was the children wearing their PE kit to school. This was originally to reduce the amount of belongings from home in school so we were in accordance with the DFE guidance. However, both the children and the staff would like this process to continue. At the beginning of autumn term, your child's teacher will share your child's PE days onto Google classroom once the timetable has been completed. On those days, your child will come into school wearing their kit. This will not only avoid wasted time changing in and out of kits but will also put an end to kits going missing, children taking wrong PE bags home and in some cases, whole PE bags going missing.

School uniform

Grey trousers
Grey tailored shorts (knee length)
Grey skirt (knee length)
Pinafore dress (knee length)
Blue gingham dress (no playsuits)
Royal blue sweatshirt
Royal blue jumper
Royal blue cardigan
White shirt
White blouse
White polo shirt
White, grey or black socks or tights
Plain black shoes

Sweatshirts and cardigans with the school logo are more expensive so we are more than happy for everyone to purchase from George at Asda, Tesco's, Marks and Spencer, Argos, Matalan, Next etc as it will be a fraction of the cost. This relates to polo shirts too.

Girls skirts need to be knee length, short or tight skirts do allow for full movement and are not appropriate in a primary school environment.

Blue gingham summer dresses are lovely in the warmer weather but playsuits are inappropriate as children need to remove most of their clothing to go to the toilet.

Shoes need to be flat, sensible shoes in order for the children to access all activities indoors and outdoors safely. No sandals, heels or boots are allowed to follow health and safety policies.

PE Kit

As the children will be wearing kits into school we have made the following changes:

Warmer weather kit:

Black shorts
White round neck t-shirt
Black trainers

Colder weather kit

Black tracksuit top
Black jogging bottoms or leggings
White round neck t-shirt
Black trainers

After consulting the children we are changing the PE kit to black as it is far easier to source (and cheaper). Tracksuit tops and bottoms can be purchased at George at Asda, Tesco's, Marks and Spencer, Argos, Matalan, Next etc whereas most do not stock royal blue.

The tracksuit top must not have a hood as this will be a health and safety issue when undertaken some sporting activities. Both the tracksuit bottoms and the top must be completely black with no flashes/names etc.