

# Ernesford Grange

# Primary School

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Summer Term

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear all parents and carers,

As we approach the end of summer term 1, I am delighted and I must say a little relieved that since returning to school on March 8<sup>th</sup>, we have had no positive Covid cases amongst the children and staff and have not had to close any of our class or year group bubbles.

This term we have caught up with some of the lost learning but as you will see from our class blogs, we have put an emphasis on PE, exercise, the outdoors and making learning fun!

Despite restrictions easing and some aspects of life returning to normal, our risk assessment has not changed and we will continue to operate in the same way in summer term 2.

There have been some positives to take from the whole experience of having to adapt the school day and to how we operate logistically, please read the Covid Keeps – September 2021 section for the reasoning behind some of the changes that will remain.

Most notably, the timings of the school day. From September, the timings of the school day will be as follows.

Year group	Doors Open	Start time	End time
Pre-school AM	8:20pm	8:30am	11:30am
Pre-school PM	12:20pm	12:30pm	3:30pm
Nursery AM	8:20pm	8:30am	11:30am
Nursery PM	12:20pm	12:30pm	3:30pm
Reception	8:35am	8:45am	3:00pm
Year 1 and 2	8:40am	8:50am	3:10pm
Year 3 and 4	8:40am	8:50am	3:10pm
Year 5 and 6	8:30am	8:40am	3:00pm

There are many reasons for continuing to stagger the school day (see Covid Keeps). We understand that this can be difficult if you have multiple children in school however, the day will not be as staggered as it is now and doors will be open at least 10 minutes before the school start time to help make sure you can get your children into school without having to wait around.

The timings of the school day ensure considerably more hours of learning than the statutory guidance of 21 hours for EYFS and KS1 and 23.5 hours a week for KS2.

I hope you have a good half term break!

Best wishes,  
Mr Taylor

## Covid Keeps – September 2021

Amongst all the uncertainty, worry and disruption to schools caused by Covid, there have been some positives along the way. We have had to adapt to a new way of operating and have been forced to change things logistically, many of which have worked well.

We will continue to do some of the things that have worked well and have even been advantageous.

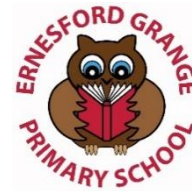
We still do not know what restrictions will be in place for schools in September and we anticipate that school life may not return completely as it was before. This makes some things difficult to plan.

However, when we return in September, the following things will remain in place:

- The school day will continue to be staggered (but not as much as before). **Positive:** This has helped to alleviate traffic and parking problems around school, making the roads safer for the children.
- School will start and finish earlier, with a 50-minute lunch break. **Positive:** Children learn best in the morning and are tired in the afternoon. Longer mornings have been more productive. Shorter lunchtimes have meant less behaviour issues.
- Play times will be staggered. **Positive:** More space and less first aid issues.
- Children will continue to wear PE kit all day on their PE days. **Positive:** Less time wasted changing, longer PE lessons, less lost property.
- Allocated entry points for year groups will remain in place. **Positive:** This has helped with traffic, parking and congestion of traffic and people around the school gates.



## Focus on Learning and Fun!



Please remember to check out our school blogs, which can be accessed through the homepage of the school website so you can find out more about what the children have been learning and doing at school.

This term, Nursery had a special visitor and have been doing lots of outdoor learning with bubbles and water. Reception have loved their minibeasts topic and successfully hatched their butterflies. Year 1 enjoyed their garden party and have been measuring in maths. Year 2 have made a fortress for the three little pigs and enjoyed their mini-beast hunt.

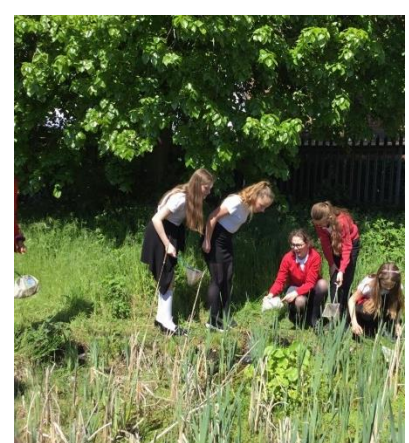




## Focus on Learning and Fun!



Year 3 have been enjoying Forest Schools, they have been planting our vegetable plants outside and catching newts at the pond. Year 4 enjoyed Roman Day, they made pan pipes in art and design and had some special visitors. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Gill and Mr and Mrs Badora for bringing your rabbits to meet the children. Year 5 have been learning about the Egyptians through drama, they entered a maths competition and have successfully completed their cycling proficiency course. Y6 have been helping with the planting and watering outside and in the geo-dome.





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Key dates for the diary 2020 - 2021	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Children return to school
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Y3 Stone Age Day</b>
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Reception induction meetings 6:00pm via Zoom</b>
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Y5 Science Afternoon</b>
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Y6 Heights and Weights</b>
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Reception induction meetings 6:00pm via Zoom</b>
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Y3 Sports Day 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	<b>Nursery induction meetings 6:00pm via Zoom</b>
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	<b>Nursery induction meetings 6:00pm via Zoom</b>
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Y4 Sports Day 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	<b>Y2 Trip to Coombe</b>
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Y5 Sports Day 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 Sports Day 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Little Owls induction meetings 6:00pm via Zoom</b>
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception Sports Day 10:00am – 11:00pm
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 Sports Day 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Y2 Sports Day 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Nursery AM Sports Day 10:00am – 11:00am
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Nursery PM Sports Day 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	<b>Y6 Trip to Water World and Bowling</b>
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Little Owls AM Sports Day 10:00am – 11:00am
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Y6 Leaver's Ball</b>
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Term Ends
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	INSET Day
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Children return to school
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Half Term begins
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Children return to school
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Term ends
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Children return to school

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