



PARK ROAD

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

3 September 2021

Next Week at a Glance

Monday 6	Tuesday 7	Wednesday 8	Thursday 9	Friday 10
* Dinner Menu week 1	*	*	*	*

Welcome and Welcome Back

We would like to warmly welcome everyone to our new school year! We have been very impressed by the way the children have returned to school after the holidays.

Our Reception class have also settled in very well and we hope they have enjoyed their first few days in school.

Important Information

As you know, we have been able to ease a lot of the restrictions that we had to put in place as a result of the COVID pandemic. This includes staggered start and end times. Many of you told us that you missed being able to come onto the playground at the end of the day to collect your child (and the start of the day for our younger year groups). We very much value being a community school and know that many of you value being able to come together in this way as part of a wider community.

We listened to your views, and for this reason, made the decision to allow families back on our playground at the end of the day. It was lovely to have such positive feedback from many of you at the end of the day yesterday, about being able to come together in this way. We would like to thank you all for respecting our requests to stay in year group 'zones' and

to respect distance as much as possible and also to leave the playground quickly once you had collected your child, please can we remind you that this applies to the start of the day as well as the end. This is how the school always operated prior to COVID; however, we also recognise this is a big change from the procedures that have more recently been in place and that this may feel overwhelming for some of you, particularly for our Y1 parents, whose children, being in Reception last year, have only ever known a staggered start and end time of the school day. We understand for some of our families and parents, it may feel like too much change too soon.

Whilst ultimately, our priority has to be to keep all within our community safe during these times, we do need to balance this with respecting views and feelings and our community spirit. Obviously, this is the first couple of days of a new system and we hope that, as we settle into new procedures, things become more 'normal' for all.

The following suggestions and reminders may help to ease this change:

- We have noticed that the vast majority of you appear to be arriving in school in the morning at 8.35am promptly. Just to reiterate, gates open at 8.35am, this is NOT the start or

arrival time. The children are collected at 8.45am with the gates being locked at 8.50am. When we had this system in place prior to COVID, children arrived at any point during this 10-minute window and this worked well; we always had a 'steady stream' of children arriving. We have noticed over the past two days that the vast majority of you are arriving at 8.35am promptly and would like to suggest and remind you that you do not need to arrive at this time; you can arrive at 8.40am or right up until 8.45am so there is no need to queue in the morning - we have had significant queues since the start of the term at KS2 gate, whereas, prior to COVID, we rarely had any queues with the same system in place.

- We also recognise that, as it is the start of the term, many of you are coming as a 'family' which has been lovely to see. Can I ask, in order to respect those within our community who are perhaps feeling less confident about coming back onto the playground, that only one parent attends in the morning/at the end of the day to alleviate the numbers of adults on the playground, once your child is fully settled back into school life?
- At the end of the school day, the gates will be opened at 3.05pm, please can we ask that you arrive no earlier than this time to avoid queues and crowds.

I would very much welcome your views on our decisions around having families back on the playground so that we know we are meeting your needs. Whilst we do know we are unlikely to be able to please all, we do want to do everything we can to get this right. We would also like to give this a few more days before we fully review how this is working as inevitably, change can often feel overwhelming when first introduced. If you would like to share your views, please do email us respectfully, via the school office at the following email address parkroad_primary@omegamat.co.uk.

Thank you.

Seesaw

As you are hopefully aware, Seesaw is the main communication tool for our school and it is important that you have access to ensure you have the most up to date information. There are two accounts for Seesaw:

- ⇒ a parent account where we will send out newsletters, general news and important updates for you and you will be able to send messages directly to the school office or your class teacher
- ⇒ a student account used for your child to complete home learning or homework.

If you don't have access, please let us know and we will send you the enrolment details.

Data Collection Sheets

We will be sending out our data collection sheets for you to check. These sheets are **extremely important should we need to contact you in case of an emergency**. Please check all of your child's and your details and notify us of any changes. Ideally please update or confirm that the details are correct through the Sims Parent App Lite. If you are unable to access the app, please correct the details or confirm that nothing has changed on the sheet, sign it and return it to school

Permission to Pick Up

If you want to make any changes to the people that you have given permission to be able to pick up your child to school, please email the school office, parkroad_primary@omegamat.co.uk, with your child's name, year and the changes you would like to make.

Chicken/Guinea Pig Rota

We will shortly be sending out a request for help to care for our Chickens and Guinea Pigs over the weekends and holidays. If you are available at all and willing to check on, feed and water our animals, let out the chickens and possibly clean them out, please keep an eye out in your child's bookbag for the form and return it to school with your availability and details. Full training will be given!

Tour of Britain - Important Information
Thursday 9 September – planning your day

The Tour of Britain comes to Warrington on Thursday 9 September. We are hosting the Stage 5 finish which will see a number of roads in South Warrington, Latchford, Bruche and Orford, as well as the town centre closed from between 2pm and 3.30pm. Some roads will be closed from earlier in the day, particularly around the town centre, Town Hall and Sankey Street.

We expect the level of traffic and congestion will be much higher than on a normal day, which will extend to other parts of our road network across the afternoon, as drivers seek alternative routes to those closed. Schools, families and pupils should be aware of the potential that afternoon journeys on the road network will take longer, particularly if normal school closing times are observed. Levels of congestion could continue beyond roads re-opening as spectators leave the event and traffic clears.

Details of the route taken by the cycle race can be found on the council website at warrington.gov.uk/ToB