

Hawkinge Primary School

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Dear Parents,

Thank you for making the new start times work so well at school this week – it has all ran very smoothly due to your promptness. It has been wonderful to see children in their classrooms getting on with their lessons before 9am again! We will not be making any more changes to the arrival times for the moment.

Thursday was a little more challenging with the heavy downpours of rain! We had a ‘wet weather contingency plan’ ready, and I think it worked as well as could be expected with pupils in Years 5 and 6 entering their classrooms, washing their hands on the way. Year 2 and Year 1 pupils gathered in the new shelters that Mr Bullard built with the assistance of Mr O’Brien and Mr Andrews (and helpful guidance and advice from me!!!). Pupils in Years 3 & 4 quickly adapted to the new routine of meeting Miss Pearson and Miss Thacker on the playground and then walking around to either Mrs Maitland’s classroom (Y4) or the entrance doors to Miss Milborrow (Y3). Year R staff ran a shuttle service between the playground and classroom so that the children were not exposed to the rain for long. Please remember, if the weather is nasty like that again, the reception teachers have been issued with yellow umbrellas so that they are easy to spot!

We have decided to review ‘home times’ this week now that we have established the changes to arrival times. We would ask from Monday that parents of pupils in Miss Milborrow’s and Mrs Rand’s class collect their children at 2:35pm rather than 2:30pm. We know it does not sound like much of a difference, but 5 minutes extra learning a day adds up to nearly half an hour a week.

We are also going to change the Y6 departure time to 2:55pm – again extending the day by a small amount daily – but as Mr O’Brien often says ‘every second counts’!! If you have a child who leaves with their Y6 sibling this is something to remember next week too.

Several parents have asked me about whether children will be having the flu vaccination at school this year. The School Nurse Team have been booked in already! The vaccinations will be available to all children on December 1st. A letter will be sent to you nearer the time for you to give permission for your child.

I posted a photograph on Facebook this morning about a change to the lunchtime menu on Thursday 1st October. All children in KS2 will be entitled to a free school lunch – have a look over the weekend at the menu for the day. Also – keep an eye out for more Christmas shopping ‘flash sales’ over the weekend on our FB page!!! 😊

Have a good weekend