



Long Lane Primary School
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 @LL_Primary

19th January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

School gate closure

Our school car park is not very big and when larger vehicles, including delivery vans, enter the site it becomes even more grid-locked. **Therefore we do not allow parents/carers to use the car park between 8.30am and 9.00am in the morning and then again from 3.00pm until 4.30pm in the afternoon.** This includes picking up from after school clubs. Parents/carers can drop-off or make quick visits to the office via the car park at other times but this must be in emergencies only please.

As you can see from above, I have written in the past to ask that those dropping off and picking up after school and particularly before after school clubs do not use the car park. I have now witnessed, and also been told by several different groups of adults, that at times the car park has become 'jammed' with cars and also more worryingly children walking and running in between them. As you can imagine this is of huge concern to me.

Therefore, from tomorrow we will be **closing the main gates** at the following times so that there is no vehicular access;

8.45am – 9.00am

3.15pm-3.30pm

4.00pm-4.40pm

Author visit

I would like to thank a small number of parents this morning who informed us in person that the visiting author yesterday caused quite a bit of worry last evening and overnight for their children. Our intention was to inspire all the children into writing some truly brilliant stories as part of our ambitions to make them all into 'writers' as well as 'readers'. I therefore apologise if this caused unnecessary problems and would like to assure you that we have indeed taken on board your concerns. We have had him visit in the past and because he was so inspiring we asked him back again.

Today in assembly I have spoken to all children from Year 1 to Year 6 about characters in books (like Elmer the Elephant or Harry Potter) and how, because they are so well written, so believable and because we 'connect' with them, we often feel that they are real. I reassured them that characters from books cannot therefore actually visit the school, for example, but instead occupy that space in our brains which often remembers things we don't want it to and yet annoyingly forgets things we should remember. I have spoken about this phenomenon before too! I do hope that this message will help now and also in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. P. Thorne, Headteacher