

Brunswick Primary School



Issue 1

NEWSLETTER

Issue 21
Friday 27th March 2020

Be nice

Work hard

Look after yourself

Dear Brunswick Community,

Our three Brunswick mantras of 'Be nice, Work hard and Look after yourself' seem even more important during these extraordinary times. It is during times like these when we get to fully understand just what a strong and supportive team we are. Working at Brunswick has always been special, but seeing our team pull together for the benefit of our whole school community has just confirmed how exceptional we are. I would like to thank all of our staff for continuing to put the needs of others first. I have been so pleased that we have been able to continue to provide school places for our vulnerable children and those whose parents/carers are key workers. Being able to play our part in ensuring that our children are kept safe and so people can continue with their roles in the community is important work. I would like to thank everyone who has made this possible at such short notice, both through their work directly with the children and behind the scenes to ensure that everything has been able to run as smoothly as possible.

Thank you as well to the staff who have ensured that remote learning can take place by offering exciting activities online and by checking in to see how things are going with the children in their class. I know that many children and parents/carers have really appreciated this. The feedback that we have had has been so positive and appreciative. The work will continue to be updated on a weekly basis, so keep checking in to see what's new.

There has also been a lot of evidence that children are continuing to work hard whilst they are away from school. Some parents/carers have emailed to say how pleased they have been with their child's attitude to learning at home; this has been great to hear. Remember that if you are finding it difficult to concentrate with any distractions that may be around you, plan a timetable for yourself and try to stick to it. Little and often may also be a good strategy if you are experiencing difficulties.

Being nice and looking after yourselves and others has never been more important. Our Brunswick community has always been an incredibly kind one and we need to continue to remember just how essential this is in these unprecedented times.

Please continue to take good care of yourselves and your loved ones. The time will come when we can get our brilliant Brunswick community back together again. Let's all hope that can happen soon.

Shaun Collins

Headteacher

School Special Opening

On Tuesday morning, we partially reopened the school to some children whose parents and carers are vital in the battle against the coronavirus. Many of these pupils are the children of NHS workers, to whom the whole country is indebted, especially at this time.

Following a deep clean on the Monday to the parts of the school which were reopened, we welcomed some of our pupils back to Brunswick for a week when the weather has very much been on our side.

The children have predominantly been enjoying their learning outside, taking advantage of our precious outdoor environment: our school chickens have never received greater care and one or two of our children were rewarded with freshly laid eggs to take home!

Much sport has been the order of the day with games which lend themselves to a two metre distance the only ones on the menu. Keeping children apart (when it is in most's nature to get close to one another) has probably been our greatest challenge. We are all getting used to learning a different, distant type of interaction: children and adults alike.

In order for our reopening to remain safe, we have had to be very stringent with the social distancing rule and we continue to insist that the children and adults wash their hands: before leaving school, upon arrival at Brunswick, after any physical activity, after visiting the loo and before and after eating food. Hands have never been so washed and skin has never been so raw!

With everyone needing to stay at least two metres apart, we are very much working on a 'the less the merrier' model at the moment. We thank you for keeping your children at home unless, as Education Secretary Gavin Williamson said on Monday, you absolutely have to send them into school as your job is critical in the fight against the coronavirus.

Lastly, we must thank our dedicated and amazing school staff who are going above and beyond by coming into school at the moment to support the fight. We are proud of them and we are proud of our whole school community.

Euan Hanington

Deputy Headteacher

School Closures – Bank Holidays

Brunswick will be closed to all on the two bank holidays over Easter. These are Good Friday (10th April) and Easter Monday (13th April). I apologise in advance if this causes any childcare problems for families of our key workers.

Communication

All parents will have received information on work that is available on the website and some families received packs from home.

Teaching staff are still keeping regular school hours and can be contactable via email. Please allow 24 hours for a response. Senior Leaders and the SENCo will also be available to contact as are our school governors. Any staff who are off sick will be encouraged to concentrate on getting better.

Please see our school website for teachers email addresses.

Governors Parent Survey 2020

Thank you to the families who have taken time to offer really useful feedback. We were very happy to receive 122 responses and some very useful feedback.

The Governors and Headteacher will let you know the results of the survey and what will happen next, based on what you tell us.

Curriculum Updates

We have been working hard on developing the maths section of our school website. The KS1 and KS2 pages have now merged. Please visit the link <https://www.brunswick.brighton-hove.sch.uk/curriculum/maths> to have a look.

We have listened to your comments following feedback from TLCs and the live survey. You will find an explanation of how children learn and make progress in maths along with visuals and age-related expectations of maths learning. There are also useful links to support maths at home which you may find useful given our current situation. Videos created by children will show you how the children learn the four operations in maths – addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Finally, there is an all-important glossary of terms. The maths team have further work to do and they would really appreciate your feedback so far. If you use any other online resources, which you feel would be useful to share with others, please email the web link to either: katemichnowicz@brunswick.brighton-hove.sch.uk or liambrosnan@brunswick.brighton-hove.sch.uk

We look forward to hearing your feedback!

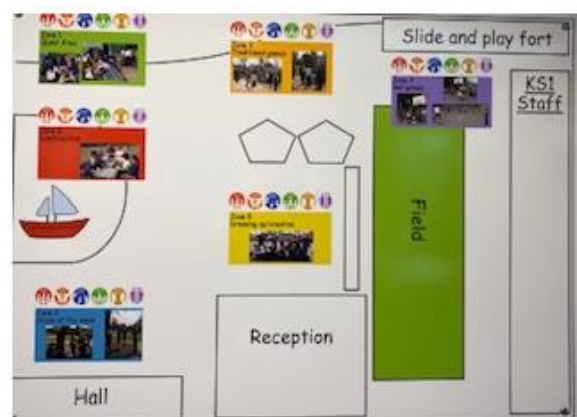
Many thanks,

The Maths Team.

Positive Playground

Miss Sumner, Mr Smith and Mr Baylie have everything they need to train the 45 respectful, ready and resilient children, when we are open again we will set the dates for this.

Play force are due to start work in Easter, we are very much hoping that they will still be able to.





Playforce Future Designers...

Children in Phoenix class enjoyed some very creative maths learning this week. I am sure that you will agree that the design they put together for Brunswick Playground was very "Blue Skies" thinking.

Imagine how much the children would love a water and theme park!

Yours sincerely,

Shaun Collins

Headteacher

