

Bredhurst Church of England Primary School

Parents as Partners

www.bredhurst.kent.sch.uk

Newsletter 31.05.20

Dear parents,

I hope that you all had a relaxing half term. We have all been busy preparing the school for the children in year R,1 and 6 to return.

I sent out all the details regarding the logistics of the school day and arriving at school last week in the newsletter, however I will reiterate the main points to clarify for any parents who are still a little uncertain.

All children who are in years R,1 and 6 will arrive at school by the entrance leading onto the school field, off 'The Street'. Parents should arrive between the allotted time slot for their child's class unless an alternate arrangements has been made-this will need to be made by emailing me direct.

Parents are asked to wait on the playground, standing 2m apart, until the children are called for to enter their classroom. Parents will then drop their child at the class door and continue on their route through the school, via the side gate and leave the school via the main playground gate. For collection, the children will be on the school field ready for you to collect them at their allotted time slot, again with parents waited at the marked out areas of the playground.

If your child requires a school dinner, the menu is available on the school website. We can currently only provide the children with a school packed lunch, which the children can either eat in school, in their classroom or take home with them. If they are taking their lunch home, then you may pick them up at the slotted time. If they are to remain in their classroom to eat their packed lunch, the allotted time is 15 minutes after the original time.

The children will all have a 20 minute break time during the morning session and you may provide them with a snack in the usual way. We aim to keep them 2m apart and will be minimizing the equipment for them to play with, however as you may imagine this social distancing will be very difficult to maintain. Each class will be having break time at a different allocated slot to avoid the children mixing, we will encourage them to wave to each other if they see each other and say hello, but it is our intention to keep each bubble as separate as possible.

We are aware that some children may need to bring in bags, for snacks and the older children may need sanitary items. If your child does need to bring a bag into school, we are going to ask that they keep their bag with them at their own work space to avoid the children having to go to pegs and get too close to each other.

The key worker children will be having their breakfast in Kemsley classroom and will be collected by Miss Meade/Mrs Allen at the appropriate time. Please may I remind you that all key worker children will need to arrive at school at 8.45 at the latest via the main gate and office door, where they will then go into Kemsley class. **If your child requires a breakfast, they must arrive at school by 8.15, this is ONLY available to key worker children.**

All children will be asked to wash their hands upon arriving at school, we are going to use Carex soap, if your child has an allergy to this soap, we would ask that you provide them with a soap they can use and hand this to the class teacher. Hand washing is key, the children and staff will be washing their hands throughout the school day to help virus control. Doors and windows will also remain open to aid air flow and maintain virus control.

This is a very new way of working for us all, and whilst we have tried exceptionally hard to think of all eventualities we are certain there will be teething issues, we hope to iron these out as quickly as possible and keep operations as smooth and stress free for all the children as we can.

If your child is returning to school you should have received an email with a link to a questionnaire which will enable us to work out what type of support your child may need upon their return. If you have not received this email please email me on headteacher@bredhurst.kent.sch.uk and I will send you the link.

For the rest of the school, it is currently home schooling for the final term. We are continuing to put the home learning on our home learning page for all year groups so the children can access the same learning whether they are being taught at home or in school.

If you do have any questions regarding the home learning please do email the class teacher through the online form but please be patient with the teachers regarding getting a response as most of them will now be in school for the majority of the school day, as well as preparing the work to go on line.

The Kent and Medway Test web sites open this week for the 11+ tests, please do not forget to apply for your child, should you wish them to take either of these tests. I will be contacting each parent individually regarding the tests over the next couple of weeks.

We will also begin to invite in the parents of our new year R children for 1:1 meetings with Mrs Harvey before these children begin their reception year with us. More details to follow.

It has been a very strange time for us all and I understand that we all want things to return back to normal as soon as possible. As school we will work within the guidance by the government to keep our children, parents, staff and local community safe. We understand that the children are missing out on lots of the fun activities they would normally have at this time of year and they will be upset and frustrated by this. We do intend to ensure they have some of these opportunities still, however initially we will be focusing on maths and English and transition work with year 6. We are hoping to be able to build some of the more exciting things into their curriculum as the term progresses, bearing in mind the safety of the children and the advice given.

I look forward to seeing several of you tomorrow morning but for those of you whose children are not yet returning to school, keep up the good work! We do appreciate your efforts and recognise that it is not easy. Hopefully we will gradually see a return to our normal way of living and the children will be able to gradually return to school – there is nothing more we, as school staff, want to see than full classrooms of happy, interested children learning and playing together. Until that time please stay strong – you know where we are should you need us, Mrs Sage will be in the school office from 8.30 – 12.45 daily should you need to contact any member of staff.

Best wishes and stay safe,

Michelle Cox