

# Bredhurst Church of England Primary School

## Parents as Partners

[www.bredhurst.kent.sch.uk](http://www.bredhurst.kent.sch.uk)

## Newsletter 03.07.20

Dear Parents,

What a positive start to the children returning to school. It has been so lovely to see their smiling faces, both coming into and going out of school and the comments from parents have only been positive with the children happy to be able to return to being amongst their friends. The children have adapted to the new ways of working so quickly and have come back brimming with enthusiasm for school life and for their learning. The excitement of being back to school has been infectious. It has also been wonderful to see how much you have done with them regarding their learning whilst at home, this time has certainly paid off with most of the children not having the massive gaps we were all concerned they may have.

The children will probably be tired this weekend, coming back to school is always tiring after a break. The added changes that have been put in place for the children will have added to this as their brains try to adapt and take in so many new things. Make sure you also have a break with so many of you returning to work you will need time to relax too.

Well done for adapting to the one-way system, I know it is all a little confusing at first but everyone is seeming to really get the hang of the new systems in place. The parking is a little hectic in the mornings, so please do not worry if you think you have missed your slot for your child's arrival time – we will either send them straight in or ask you to wait with them until the current class has gone in. Please do not worry if we ask you to wait somewhere else, it is simply so we can get as many of the children in as quickly and efficiently as possible.

If you would like to have a socially distanced picnic on the field with your child after collecting them or before dropping them off, then you are more than welcome to come into school between 11.40 and 12.40 and have a picnic on the field. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer you the use of the toilets currently.

If you did not complete the questionnaire and you would still like to inform us about your child's experiences during the recent restrictions, you can access still access the link on our school website on the home learning page under the heading 'Returning to School.'

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ctXtCdKPKj-qwzui\\_3pYlkHLsPZCpHUNg9obR2xZ1wU](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ctXtCdKPKj-qwzui_3pYlkHLsPZCpHUNg9obR2xZ1wU)

Due to the inclement weather this past week we did not the lost property and left school uniform, should the weather be more settled then we endeavour to put out the lost property next week during the lunchtime pick up and drop off times.

### **A reminder of the upcoming events:**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July** – Leaver's Disco, 3.30 – 5.30 This will be a socially distanced affair, on the school field, with each year group remaining within their bubble. Any child at school in the afternoon session will be able to attend the disco, should they wish to, in their disco clothes. Any children in the morning session will have to return to school at 3.30 in their disco clothes.

Each child will have drinks and refreshments as well as music and dancing. Our May King and Queen, Henry and Lili-Ann will be supplying an ice cream or ice lolly as their treat to every child at the disco. We will have an ice cream van attending to supply these for the children. As we will also be crowning the

May King and Queen at the end of the disco, parents are welcome to come along and watch the crowning ceremony from 5.15.

If you have not received a disco letter, please do look on the school website where you can download it.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Year 6 Leaver's Service @11.00**, on the school field – Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles of year 6 are invited to join us in celebrating their time at Bredhurst, before they begin the next stage of their learning journeys. Please bring a chair or blanket to sit on. The whole school will be invited to join in the service. If your child attends the afternoon session and they would like to attend the leavers service, you will need to attend the service with them. If they do not wish to attend they do not need to attend school on 21<sup>st</sup> July. The morning children will attend their session as usual and attend the service before going home. The collection time for all children will be approx. 12.30 unless you would like to stay and have a socially distanced picnic on the school field.

**The school will be closed to all children, including key workers, over the entire Summer break – from Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September, with the children returning on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.****

The new guidance of how schools will be expected to operate from September was announced yesterday. Our initial plan is for all children to return full days from September in their class groups not the year group bubbles we currently have in place. We will still have staggered starts and ends to the day as well as shortened and staggered lunchtimes, meaning the school day may be slightly shorter to accommodate these changes. We are expecting that the children will remain in their class bubbles. We do not expect to be able to adhere strictly to social distancing within these bubbles. All children will be expected to return to school in September and parents will be faced with fines for non-attendance – in line with government guidance.

The class bubble structure may also have an impact on the breakfast club provision, if the children are to remain in class bubbles and are not to mix across bubbles we may not be able to provide breakfast club. We are awaiting clarity regarding this.

As soon as we have further information regarding breakfast club and class bubbles we will notify you of the updates. We are currently putting a plan in place, regarding start and end times for each class for September, which I aim to share with you by the end of next week. This will however all be subject to change according to ongoing government guidelines, which could also change over the Summer break. If this is the case - an alert and update will be sent out. Do keep an eye on our website as any updates are also added there; all our newsletters are also available via the website should they not download properly in the app.

Due to the school closure and to help the children with the social aspect of the learning as well as to help out working parents, Mary Gough will be running a daily Summer Activity Session during August. More details will follow regarding this.

A letter was sent yesterday to **year 5 parents regarding PGL**; just to update you- I have emailed the person in charge of Medway Testing arrangements to ask whether our children would be able to sit the test on the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend. We have also contacted PGL to see whether we would be able to move our booking to a different weekend after the testing has finished. As soon as I have further information from either of these I will let you know. I understand that this is a very difficult time for parents, I know you would like your child to attend their school residential with their peers, however you also need to think about the testing arrangements and give them the best opportunity. Rest assured, we are looking into how best to resolve this issue.

Thank you to the FOBS team for the book sale which took place this afternoon. It looks like there will be plenty of reading taking place over the Summer! We do rely on the money raised by FOBS to buffer our budget and offer our children different experiences. The cancellation of May Day this year has hit us very hard as we do rely on this money to purchase lots of necessary items for our children, however we also understand that as families you may have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic financially, so do not

want to pressure you to spend money which you can ill afford. Please only purchase goods at our events if you feel that you can afford to do so. If you are experiencing financial difficulties or your circumstances have changed it may be that your child is eligible for a free school meal, if you think that this may be the case please do speak to Mrs Cox or Mrs Place in confidence and we will support you with the application process.

Thank you once again for all your support during this time of transition.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Michelle Cox

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