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*Believe in ourselves, be the best we can be*

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## Newsletter- 12.2.21

### Contact Tracing

For any children who have been accessing the provision in school, we would like to remind you that we still require you to contact us if your child tests positive for Coronavirus over the half term period. This is because there could be further implications for anyone your child has been in close contact with during the last week of school and we would need to inform families, DCC and Public Health England of any confirmed cases. Please contact the main admin email and we will continue to check this over the half term break. Many thanks for your cooperation.

### SENDCO

As many of you will know, Katie Mackle has been our Special Educational Needs Coordinator since 2017. Katie recently wrote to me saying that she intends to resign from her role and will be leaving the school on 30th April 2021 and we will now be advertising for this role. The SENDCo role is an incredibly demanding one and Katie has been doing this alongside being a carer and another position in Torbay. She intends to use this additional time to further support her family and dedicate to her role as a carer. Katie has worked alongside many families in her time at Bishop and has secured additional funding for a significant number of children whilst supporting staff at school. On behalf of our school community, I would like to thank Katie for everything she has done and wish her all the very best for the future.

### Preschool Update

A chilly end to this first half term where we've enjoyed lots of activities relating to our 'fairy tales' theme. I know that lots of the children have been re-telling the stories at home which is lovely to hear!



As the number of children attending our Preschool continues to rise, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff for their commitment and hard work during this very demanding time. We look forward to seeing everyone after the half term holiday – let's hope the sun is shining! - Yeash Burkill (Preschool Lead)

### **Lockdown**

We anticipate that by the end of this half term we will know more about how the government has chosen to proceed with the current lockdown arrangements. As you are aware, they have said that children will return on Monday 8th March at the earliest but that this is yet to be confirmed. We wanted you to know that, as schools, we have no more notice of these announcements than you do! As soon as we know what is happening we will write to you to confirm how it will look at Bishop so that we can all prepare for the next step in getting all of our children back into school.

### **Zoom Meetings**

We are planning some more Zoom Catch-up meetings for the week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> February. We will send out further details towards the end of half term but just wanted to make you aware so that you look out for this information.

### **Remote Learning Survey and Parent Voice**

I hope you had a chance to read through our Remote Learning Survey summary that was sent home earlier this week. We very much appreciate your engagement in this survey and for sharing your thoughts. We have tried to make it clear as to what we will be doing as a result of what you have said. We have also made sure that we focus on the many positive messages that were coming through too! It can be far too easy to focus on what needs to be done next without stopping and celebrating with staff, governors and parents the progress we have made with our remote learning offer and how you have said your children are engaging and thriving during these unprecedented times. With that in mind, I wanted to share some more of your comments and thank you again for your feedback.

***'It's clear the teachers really care and I've been really impressed by the support and lack of pressure from teachers to do things perfectly. I think they've been excellent.'***

***'Your whole approach, timeliness and passion for children's continued learning balanced with their good mental health is incredibly evident - bravo!'***

***'The school has provided really good provision in a positive and unpressurised way.'***

***'The brilliant thing is the feedback and seeing the comments from other children so we can see what they've done and where we need to focus and it's just lovely having that connection with the rest of the class and the teacher still.'***

***'The work is varied, flexible and can be carried out either on screen or printed. The feedback from teachers is prompt and supportive and the***

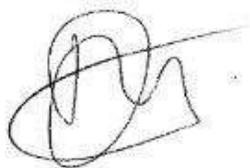
*videos sent through of stories and assemblies are a lovely way to stay connected to school.'*

*'The school have been so supportive and understanding of family circumstances and limitations of remote learning.'*

*'Can't fault anything. To me all the remote learning is far more than we ever expected. It has improved over the year, the videos, story time, assemblies, feedback, links and resources - you are all very approachable and supportive and communication is always there. Thank you!'*

We hope you all have a relaxing and safe half term and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind regards,



**Dave Killoran**  
**(Headteacher)**

### **FUTURE DATES FOR THE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	Pupils accessing school return Remote Learning to start again
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