

Barby C of E Primary School

Newsletter May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

From the government announcement on Monday, schools have now been issued with another document explaining the actions that should be taken to minimise the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in their school. Despite what the media is announcing, much of the content in this guidance remains the same and many protective measures that have been in place will still need to continue. Therefore, we will continue to review our current risk assessment making sure we are following all the established systems of control to minimise the risk of and spread of infection.

Summarising the information succinctly, the main points made, with regard to prevention, are that the school must continue to:

- Minimise contact across the school premises and maintain social distancing wherever possible. Consistent groups reduce the risk of transmission by limiting the number of pupils and staff in contact with each other. Therefore, the operation of class bubbles will continue until further notice.
- Recommend that face coverings within school are used by staff and visitors in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas).
- Ensure that everybody cleans their hands thoroughly and frequently.
- Promote the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Routinely clean surfaces, especially frequently touched contact points.
- Keep all occupied spaces well-ventilated.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when necessary.
- Encourage all adults working in the school to conduct asymptomatic testing twice per week.
- Minimise contact with individuals who are required to self-isolate by ensuring they do not attend the school.

Thankfully, in the guidance, there are some changes that will have a positive impact on the education provided for your children. Again risk assessments will need to be undertaken, control measures followed and further guidance from PDET implemented, but educational day visits can begin to resume.

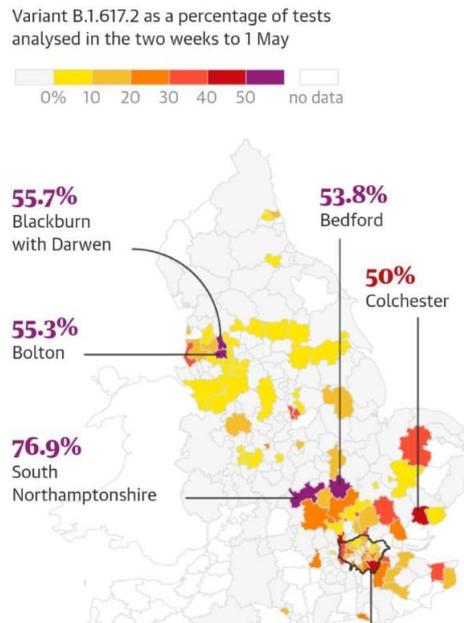
Wrap around care will continue with minimised mixing between children, where possible. All children attending still have to remain in consistent groups every time they attend the setting. All bookings for wrap around care now need to be made via the SchoolMoney website. If bookings are not made we may not be able to accommodate children if spaces are not available due to our current limited numbers. Also, when reservations are not needed please still inform the office.

There is now some flexibility to allow some movement of staff between bubbles, although this will be kept to as and when is absolutely necessary. Specialists, therapists and support staff for pupils will provide interventions as usual. Supply teachers, peripatetic teachers or other temporary staff, can also be used.

A reminder - Covid-19

I'm sure that you will all agree that the thought of poorly families, bubbles closing, pupils having to be taught at home again and inconvenience caused to working parents who are beginning to return to workplaces are things that we all want to avoid. What is happening in South Northamptonshire should be a cause for concern to us all and a reminder too that, despite the talk of returning to 'normality' soon, this virus in whatever form, has not been eradicated.

This map, circulating yesterday, cannot be ignored.



Please remember if you have a child who is showing possible symptoms and is being tested for Covid-19, all household members have to isolate until a negative result is returned. Guidance to schools on this issue has not changed: bubble groups will need to isolate for 10 days at home when there is a positive case.

Some lovely things happening at school this week

Learning about Living Things:

From Frogspawn to Frogs

Outside of our Horse Chestnuts and Oaks Classes, you may have noticed that we have recreated a pond in which tadpoles are slowly growing into froglets and (hopefully) eventually frogs. The children have been fascinated to watch the changes over the weeks and are making some fantastic observations of their behaviours as well as the changes they observe. One child observed that as they develop legs, they prefer to spend their time in the shallower section of the 'pond'. We look forward to hearing the observations they make as the transformation to frogs becomes complete.

Acorns



This week our Acorns class have had some very special visitors. Arriving as eggs and being carefully tended by 14 doting little parents, we now have 10 fluffy chicks to look after. The children have loved watching them hatch and begin to grow.



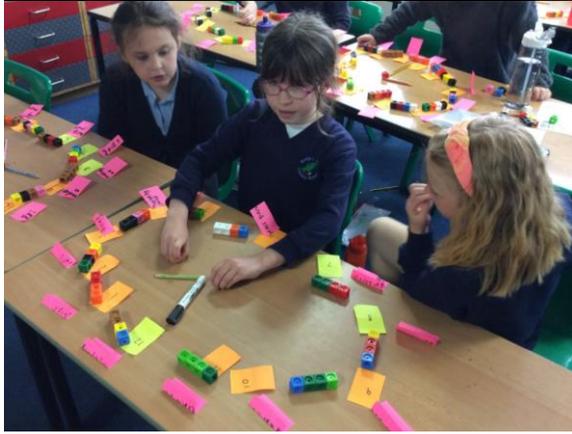
Horse Chestnuts, finding out about food webs

Horse Chestnuts have been finding out about the complexities of food webs as part of their Science work this term. Here, they investigate the food web of the savannah!

Silver Birches ... Weaving time!

In Silver Birches this week the children have been learning to tell the time. We have made clocks on our tables to help us to read the time to the nearest 5 minutes.

In Art we have been learning about weaving. The children used paper to weave their own piece of art! We will build on this next week by linking our weaving skills to our topic on Kandinsky.



Oaks Class

Mr Boon has shared with me how totally impressed he is with the class's progress in using inference in their reading this week. He used the words 'totally blown away'! I'm sure that only good things can be inferred about our Year 5 and 6's attitude to learning from that comment! Well done to everyone in Oaks.



More Special Visitors

Today, some very special visitors came to see us. Mr Callard brought his lambs to visit school. The children saw them bottle feeding and had the chance to watch them play on the field. They asked lots of brilliant questions about their care and development. Thanks to Mr Callard for bringing them in for us to see.

Forest School

The children have really enjoyed visiting Forest School this week where they have undertaken a number of collaborative and creative projects in this very special part of our school...



Huge thanks go to Mr Callard who has donated two new trees to the school which are now planted at the edge of the school field. This will not only be lovely for the children to observe through their seasonal changes but will also provide much needed shade in summer months.

Mr Callard has also created the framework of a willow fence around the periphery of our forest school area. Willow sticks will be woven into the frame by the children to complete the fence, it looks great. Thank you Mr Callard!

A different type of Fencing...!

On **Thursday 10th June**, we are delighted to welcome Rob Parsons from Daventry Fencing Club to Barby. Rob teaches fencing to children and will be leading an assembly to demonstrate the sport in action to the children, with a view to starting an after school Fencing Club if restrictions and 'take-up' allow.

Life Education Bus Visit

This year, Pam Jennings will be bringing the Life Education Bus experience into the classrooms of Barby School.

Visiting on **Wednesday 26th May**, Pam will visit each class presenting information to on a range of Personal Social Health Education topics.

This year's focuses for each class are detailed below. If you would like more information about the content of your child's sessions, please contact their class teacher (via the school office) in the first instance.

Start	Finish	Programme	Teacher	Class	Size	Educator
Wed 26 May 2021						
09:00	10:00	Decisions		Y5/6	27	Pam Jennings
10:15	10:45	All About Me		REC	15	Pam Jennings
11:00	11:45	My Wonderful Body		Yr 1/2	28	Pam Jennings
13:00	14:00	It's Great to be Me		Yr 4	27	Pam Jennings
14:10	14:55	Meet the Brain		Yr 2/3	27	Pam Jennings

Sporting Events

As Covid restrictions begin to ease, we are increasingly able to participate in sports events and competitions.

On **Wednesday 26th May**, our Oaks children are invited to participate in a **Footgolf competition**, organised by Northants Sports Partnership at Daventry Sports Park.

We are sure that (restrictions permitting) this will be the first of many events for our children to enjoy and look forward to other classes having the opportunity to participate in the forthcoming sporting activities.

After half term, Toni Tull from Northants Sports Partnership will be visiting Barby to run **Orienteering activities** for our KS2 pupils. Keep an eye out for updates and photos of the children in action.

She will also be visiting to train up our older children to become **Sports Leaders** for next year, enabling them to lead games and activities for the younger children at lunch times.

We are beginning to plan arrangements for our annual school **Sports Day**; dates and details will be sent through early next term.

Anglo Saxons Day

Huge thanks to Mrs Gamage who is working hard to organise an **Anglo Saxons Day (virtual) for our Horse Chestnuts and Oaks classes** with the historical education company History Off the Page. The children will have a range of amazing artefacts and activities to work with to simulate an Anglo Saxon village – look out for more details which will be sent through to you soon.

Zoolab Visit

On 21st June, Zoolab animal experience will be visiting Acorns, Conkers, and Silver Birches, bringing in animals that children will not usually get to see and touch in their everyday lives! This forms part of their term's science study of Living Things. Please look out for details which will be sent out next week.

NMPAT First Access Project – Ukuleles

On **Thursday June 10th**, our Silver Birches class will begin a course of lessons provided by Northamptonshire Music and performing Arts Trust to learn the Ukulele. A specialist teacher from the NMPAT team will teach the class each week over the course of the summer term, culminating in a final performance.

We can't wait to hear them playing!

Relationships, Sex and health Education (RSHE) at Barby

The Department for Education has announced changes to relationships and sex education (RSE), which is part of our program of study. These changes have come into effect and all schools are required to comply with the updated requirements to teach Relationships and Health Education. The DfE also strongly encourages primary schools to deliver sex education to help prepare children for their transition to secondary school. The new guidance is about ensuring that all children get the appropriate information they need and want.

Schools are now required to consult parents on their planned curriculum and arrangements for teaching RSHE, giving you the opportunity to read documentation, look at resources and ask questions about how this crucial aspect of children's learning will be delivered.

Between now and the half term break, we will send our proposed policy and plan for delivering RSHE at Barby in the final term of the year to you, along with a vehicle for you to feedback to us or to ask questions. Please do look out for the information that will be sent through shortly.

As part of our planned provision, we have organised a visit from the school nursing team on **Wednesday 30th June to talk to Oaks Class about Puberty.**

Anxiety and Uncertainty Workshop for parents with Jogo

This week is Mental Health Awareness week and the children have enjoyed assemblies and activities promoting strategies to support positive mental health.

We are planning an **Anxiety and Uncertainty workshop for Parents on Thursday 10th June between 7 and 9 pm**. The session will provide support and strategies for dealing with anxieties in children as well as in our roles as parents. A flier with full details will be shared with you shortly, please keep the date free.

School Photographer Visits

The school photographer will be visiting us on **Friday 28th May to take class photographs**. We want the photos to look amazing so please ensure that your child is wearing full school uniform and school shoes for the picture. Details of how to order will be sent by the school office. There will be no PE sessions on this day.

On **Friday 11th June**, we have organised for local photographer, **Lisa Jeffries to come to take informal portraits** of the children at school. Lisa takes stunning photographs which you will, I'm sure, treasure for years to come. Children can wear their choice of clothes for the day so that lovely images can be captured. The photographs will be taken outside, weather permitting. Details of how to order will be shared by the school office nearer the time.

Term Dates

2020-21

Friday 28th May: School Closes for Half Term
Monday 7th June: School opens to pupils, Term 6
Tuesday 20th July: School closes for the Summer Break.

2021 – 22

Wednesday 1st, Thursday 2nd, Friday 3rd September: Teacher training days
Monday 6th September: School reopens to pupils

If there are any aspects of the newsletter that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Sally Beaton

Headteacher