



Byfleet Primary School

King's Head Lane, Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 7AT

Telephone: 01932 403116

Email: info@byfleet.surrey.sch.uk

Twitter: [@byfleetprimary](https://twitter.com/byfleetprimary)

Mrs C. Meyrick Headteacher

Thursday 22nd October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As our first half term of this academic year draws to an end, and my first as the new Headteacher of Byfleet, I would like to extend my thanks to the lovely children and the families of our terrific village school. Learning to live with Covid dominating many of our decisions, with new staggered start/end of day arrangements, limited opportunity to speak face-to-face with the class teacher etc., has not been without its challenges. The children have been exceptionally resilient, most returning to school and slotting right back into the routines of learning and rebuilding friendships and developing grown mind-sets, after a long absence from school last year. I am immensely proud of the attitudes of all the staff, who continue to be dedicated to moving the school forward through school improvement strategies, providing great opportunities for our wonderful children, which they clearly are benefitting from.



Staff are looking forward to having Parent/Carer meetings with you in the first week back and we are currently finalising our arrangements for our additional SEN Parent Meetings for after half term, to outline the additional support our SEND pupils are receiving and to share their targets with parents to work on at home. I continue to welcome feedback from parents via email through the school office, or a quick 2-minute chat on the gate as collaboration between school and home is so important. Thank you for embracing so many of these changes and we hope you and your child have a relaxing break, make the most of Halloween-at-home and return back safely to school on Monday 2nd November. Have a great holiday!

Drop off & Collection Arrangement Review

Just a reminder of the drop off and collection times.

	Start Time	Collect Time
Reception	8.30	2.40
Year 1 & 2	8.35	2.45
Year 3 & 4	8.40	2.55
Year 5 & 6	8.25	3.00

Parents/Carers Evening

[Please could you check your child's Google email account](#) – a link has been sent to this account for you to access your Google Hangout parents' evening on Tuesday 3rd or Wednesday 4th November. Please could you click 'yes' to accept this appointment, which will indicate to the teacher that you have access to the link. On the evening of your parent meeting, please ensure you are logged into your child's email account and click on the link in this email to access the parent's evening video call. If you are unsure, please ring the school office for support.



Clubs

We still have space available in our Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club if you wish your child to attend. We have thought carefully about this provision, where the children are separated into the bubbles that they use during the school day so your child(ren) will not be mixing with other bubbles. Please contact the school office to enquire or book a place for your child.

Harvest Food Parcels

A big thank you to our families for the generous donations to our local church for Harvest. Vaughan Starkey at the church has asked for any of our Byfleet families who are in need of food parcels to please make contact with the food bank on 01932 355972..

Free Parent Courses

Here is a link to a range of FREE parenting courses, which may be of interest to you. [Click here.](#)

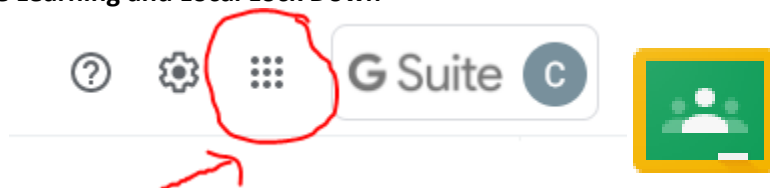
Attendance & Penalty Notices

- Currently we have 143 children (60%) who have 100% attendance so far.
- 54 children (23%) have an attendance of below 95%, which would trigger our school to be below average for attendance. The national average is 96%.

Surrey County Council have issued us the following message: Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority, they will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices.

Unauthorised leave of absence is classified as not attending school for the purpose of holidays, weddings, funerals, visiting sick relatives, routine appointments etc. All leave requests are to be made via the office and please may we remind parents that routine appointments such as dentist and optometrist visits should not be scheduled during term time or during the school day as this will be recorded as unauthorised.

Remote Learning and Local Lock Down



- Please note that you will need to have accessed your child's Google Classroom log on to be able to have your parent/carer evening slot via Google Hangout next half term. You are also able to download 'Google Classroom' as an APP, which may make things easier.
- If you decide to change your child's password, please update this on the sticker inside their reading diary so that they can access this during computing lessons.
- In the event of a local lockdown, we will inform you and all remote learning will be available via your Google Classroom.

School Improvement

This week Miss Payne has started investigating different handwriting approaches on how we can start teaching our children handwriting from mid-year in Reception so that they enter Year 1 with precursive 'entry and exit' handwriting strokes in use. This will really help our youngest children get to grips with using *joined up writing* from the earliest opportunity, with the intention of our



children entering Year 2 with fluent joined handwriting, **with letters of the correct size, with ascenders and descenders of the appropriate shape.** Handwriting is a big focus for us this year so please could you also encourage your children to use joined writing, age-appropriate, at home.

Warm Fleeces – school uniform

We have had difficulty sourcing plain black fleeces with a zip up the front for our children to wear during the winter months, particularly now that the weather is getting colder and we are having to keep the classrooms well ventilated. Please feel free to purchase your own PLAIN BLACK FLEECE for your child to wear as part of their school uniform. This needn't have the logo on it as I am hoping to keep costs down for our families.

The FRIENDS of Byfleet Primary

[Please click here to see all the wonderful fundraising events they have planned for the next few months ahead...](#) The first Friday back, 6th November, is our *Breaking the Rules Mufti Day* – further details to be sent out shortly by the FRIENDS. They have also arranged a brilliant ‘Silent Auction’ where you will be able to register and bid on some splendid prizes, which may help you kick start your Christmas present shopping list. Our children’s Tea-towels are now ready to order here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fbps/#.X5FtJ9BKjcs>

Stars of the Week

Each week, one child is chosen by their class teacher to receive a certificate for being the ‘Star of the Week’. Well done to these stars.....

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Liam D	Lauren	Carter & Rose	Archie	Jack George	Bethany	Lydia



Kind Donations

A big plea from us.....Please could you help us make our school budget stretch a little bit further by helping us out with the following items, after half term:

- Pritt glue stick
- Box of tissues



Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 22 nd October – Last day of Autumn 1	Tuesday 3 rd November and Wednesday 4 th November – Virtual Parents’ Evening
Friday 23 rd October - INSET day – no pupils in school	
Friday 18 th December – Last day of Autumn 2 Staggered end of day timings to be confirmed	Friday 6 th November – Break the Rules Mufti Day - donations
Monday 16 th November - Odd Sock Day – Anti bullying	Saturday 21 st November – Silent Auction Opens www.jumblebee.co.uk/fbpsilentauktion
Friday 11 th December - Wear a Christmas Jumper/Hat day - £1 donation	Monday 4 th January - Spring Term Starts

Have a wonderful half-term break!

Kind regards,
Mrs Meyrick – Headteacher