



Byfleet Primary School

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

Telephone: 01932 403116

Twitter: @byfleetprimary

Email: info@byfleet.surrey.sch.uk

Mrs C. Meyrick Headteacher



Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Week 4 started with some unexpected snow over the weekend which was like a tonic for the soul - we hope you managed to enjoy some fresh air whilst building snowmen (socially distanced of course!). A few staff got stuck in on Sunday to clear the snow and grit to make our site safe for the children returning the following day - we had great fun! It was lovely hearing some of the stories from the children about how they enjoyed building snowmen and spending time outside with their families - what a welcomed positive experience.



School Update

We currently have 32% of our children in school - 25% are critical worker children and 7% are vulnerable.

Headteacher Briefing

Thank you to the parents who were able to attend my Headteacher briefing on Wednesday evening on Google Hangout. I will arrange for a second Headteacher briefing either next week or at the start of week 6 (8th February) so that I can outline our arrangements for Spring 2. For now, the headlines are:

- Children **could** return to school on 8th March (week 3)
- Schools will be given 2 week's notice for wider school opening (22nd February)



What will re-opening look like?

The truth is we have not received any guidance to what re-opening will look like. As soon as we do, we will make plans and inform you. We want all the children back and we do not want to be closed again!

Is Monday 8th March realistic?

The simple answer is we do not know, but we live in hope. If we have guidance regarding this before half term we can inform you of our plans. If this is not the case and we receive guidance on our return after half term we then have two weeks to plan and provide information to parents/carers – we will update you as soon as we can. If the guidance is similar to last term, we have a clear plan ready for how we will open for all at Byfleet Primary.

How will you make up time for lost time at school?

We will do all we can to ensure pupils' learning is accelerated but most importantly we will ensure a wide range of social experiences and interactions for the children. There will probably be things we cannot do, for example the residential trips, however we will do all we can to make every child have a wonderful Byfleet experience! The best thing about the summer term is that it is always action-packed, enjoying some sunshine and we will ensure this summer is the best yet!



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What about my child in Year 6 and the move to secondary school?

We are already in discussions with our secondary feeder schools and as local heads we have all said we will make this transition the best it can be. If this means amending parts of what we teach, we will do this. Our focus for Byfleet pupils in Year 6 can be captured in three words: **connection, preparation and celebration.**

Test and Trace over half term

Please note that as we break for half term we are required to be involved in track and trace 2 days after the last day of teaching.

If your child gets COVID symptoms in the 2 days after Friday 12th February (either Saturday 13th February or Sunday 14th February) and they have a test that comes back positive, you should contact the school. You are able to email the school on info@byfleet.surrey.sch.uk to let us know up until Tuesday 16th February at 10am. This would be to inform us that your half term plans will be to isolate for 10 days, and we will be in the position to inform any other families whose children have been in contact with your child during the last couple of days at school.

If your child develops symptoms after Sunday 14th February, you should not contact the school. Instead you should follow the government's track and trace procedure www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works. The main symptoms of Coronavirus in children are:

- A high temperature
- A new continuous cough
- A loss of taste or smell



We have also been advised that in some cases children display a sore throat or upset stomach.

Remote Learning

- Parents/Carers of Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 children may come to school from to collect phonics reading books if they wish. If your child is in upper key stage 2 and still reading these books, you are also welcome to come and collect some books for them. Miss Payne has sent out a letter outlining the information. Collection days are:

Reception Monday	Year 1 Tuesday	Year 2 Wednesday	Year 3 Thursday
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- Please follow us on Twitter @byfleetprimary to see some of the children's work that is being shared. Please feel free to tweet some of your children's learning from home and tag us in as we'd love to celebrate their great work.
- In week 6, we have arranged for the teachers to have a 1-1 10-minute session with each child in their class. We will send the registration link out to access these and teachers will let you know what time your child's session will be. We hope this will be a lovely way to end this unusual half term for your child.
- Just a reminder - if you are struggle with accessing remote learning due to not having a device or having to share a device with siblings, please be in touch so that we can help.





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Kind Plea

We have some splendid trophies that have been won over the years at Byfleet which currently are gathering dust in the back of a cupboard. I would love to set up a 'celebration wall' in our foyer to showcase our successes at Byfleet. With our budget being tight, we would love to acquire a trophy cabinet or trophy wall-mounted shelf. If you currently have one of these knocking about that you no longer need, or know of someone who is looking to get rid of one in good condition, please let Mrs Sopp know as we'd love to take this off your hands.



Safeguarding Award

We are delighted to have received an award from The Safeguarding Alliance in recognition of our efforts to keep our school as safe as possible during this Covid pandemic. Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do so we are chuffed to have received this award.

Surrey's Early Help Offer

Surrey County Council are building a hub that is intended to become a go-to resource to help parents and carers looking for additional information at this time about how to support their children. This is a useful resource which will be developed

further but you can find it here:

<https://www.surreysfamilyhelphub.org.uk/?view=category>

Mental Health Week

Next week we will focus on what we can do to support mental health. Here are some resources for you to share with your children at home.

Video 1 - Express Yourself - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfbOkWFTRAw>

Video 2 - Creativity Goes On - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kl1NW7h7rY>

Video 3 - Beautiful Oops - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2fZjMYdQjGM&t=3s>

There is also an Ant and Dec NSPCC assembly, which is brilliant -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qm0kccbZpYY>

Weekly Themes

The foundation subjects are being covered through 'Weekly Themes'. These are themes which will be consistent from Years 1-6. Your child's teacher will set an activity each day relating to one of the 'Foundation Subjects' linked to the week's theme. We hope that having a consistent theme will make Remote Learning easier for families who have children in different years as they can share the learning as a whole family.





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Here is an overview of each theme:

- Week 5 - Well-being week (in line with Children's Mental Health Week)
- Week 6 - Internet Safety (in line with Safer Internet Day on 9th February)

Star of the Week

Well done to these superstars for doing something extra special this week.....

Reception Rory	Year 1 Jay	Year 2 Penelope	Year 3 Maya	Year 4 Matthew Maisie	Year 5 Lilly L	Year 6 LJ
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Now more than ever we all need to help our children and ourselves to stay as positive and resilient as possible. I appreciate that this can be challenging when we are faced with uncertainty, but your efforts as parents and carers have a huge impact on your children. Our collective effort and sacrifices means our children are getting a good deal. We are looking forward to them coming back soon, once it's safe to do so. I look forward to the day when we can get back to a more 'normal' life; when we can pop and see friends and not worry. I know we are not at that point yet and we still have a way to go but this is a year of hope, a year when what we have longed for will become a reality. Have a restful weekend and thank you for your continued support with your child's remote learning.

Keep well and keep safe.

Kind regards,

Mrs Meyrick
Headteacher

