

Friday 5th February 2021 Dear Parents/Carers,



- Thank you for the generous donations of two trophy cabinets that now sit proudly displaying our children's awards in our main foyer. Thank you also for the kind gifts of hot chocolate and biscuits for our staff that we received this week - it has been much appreciated!
- It is anticipated to snow on Sunday and later on in the coming week. If your children currently attend school, please wear appropriate footwear and take care walking down King's Head Lane as the council neglected to grit this area a fortnight ago, so it's likely to be treacherous on Monday morning.

## School Update

- Parent/Carer meetings will take place on Wednesday 3rd March and Thursday 4th March. A separate
  email will be sent out imminently to allow you to book your session. Please note, <u>if your child is on the
  SEN register, then a double slot will be made available to discuss their SEN Support Arrangement
  targets so please book 2 consecutive slots.
  </u>
- Teachers will have a 10 minute 1-1 session with each child in their class next week please check your child's Google Classroom for details of when their 1-1 session will be. Google Hangout links will be added to the stream for them to access their call. This will be a wonderful opportunity for teachers to have an informal conversation with your child and to share personalised feedback and to praise them for the great effort and resilience shown over the past 6 weeks.
- I have eagerly awaited an announcement from the government regarding arrangements for the start of Spring 2 so that I could arrange a Google hangout with parents/carers, however this hasn't materialised this week. Once an announcement has been made and we have had time to tweak our plans, I will send out an invitation for a Headteacher briefing at 7.30pm via Google hangout next week for parents/carers to attend. The government indicated that a 2 week timeframe would be provided to enable schools to make the necessary arrangements. If no announcements are made by Friday 12th February, I will notify you in next week's newsletter that arrangements will remain as they currently are, with 32% of our Critical Worker and Vulnerable children continuing to come into school and the remaining Byfleet children receiving remote learning. Thank you for continuing to support your children so well at home and for engaging so well with our remote learning offer.

#### 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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

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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!

## 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 12<sup>th</sup> February (either Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February or Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> February, you should not contact the school. Instead you should follow thegovernment'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**

- Thank you for the feedback in our parent survey. We are always looking at ways to improve.....you asked for some additional support with how MNP (Maths No Problem) is taught, so we have added <u>some maths videos to our school website</u>.
- Parents/Carers of Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 children may come to school 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. Please continue to read daily with your children.

Collection days are:















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Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday

- 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.
- Just a reminder if you are struggling 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.

## **Children's Mental Health Week**

We've enjoyed sharing some tips and advice with our children this week as part of Children's Mental Health Week where we shared the message of not only keeping a healthy body through exercise but also to eat healthily, have healthy habits and routines and thinking positively.

# Getting good sleep Keep regular wake and sleep times Going to sleep and getting up each day at similar times helps to train your body to work on a schedule. Create a bedtime routine A familiar bedtime routine helps you wind down and get ready to sleep. Your routine could include: Reading a book • A herbal tea • A warm bath or shower NOTE: Try to avoid looking at any screens during this routine as the bluelight can wake up your brain A cozy, welcoming bedroom An inviting bedroom can help you to sleep. You could try: Keeping your room tidy and welcoming

- Making your bed each day
- Making sure there's no bright lights on nearby

#### Let your worries go

If there's things weighing on your mind, try writing down how you feel or make a to-do list for tomorrow.



# Relaxation

Tips, tricks and ideas to help relax your mind

#### 1. Let it out

If you're feeling worried about something, it can help to talk it through with others. It might sound cheesy but a problem shared really is a problem halved.

#### 2. Listen ...

- To something to distract you or calm you down. This could be...
  - · A song or playlist
  - · A meditation app, like Smiling Mind
  - · A podcast

#### 3. Laugh or smile

You don't have to wait for someone else to do something funny, you could ...

- Find a fun game to play with others
- · Watch a funny show or movie
- Look at a picture of a happy memory
- Find a laughter yoga class on YouTube

#### 4. Get outside

Spending time outside your house, especially in nature can help you to get out of your own head. You could ...

- Try a simple mindfulness exercise like noticing 5 sights, smells and textures
- Do some exercise to release happy endorphins



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## Weekly Themes

• Week 6 - Internet Safety (in line with Safer Internet Day on 9th February) Please see letter emailed earlier today for further information.



## Star of the Week

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

Reception Muskan	Year 1 Charlotte	Year 2 Fin	Year 3 Lilly	Year 4 George Megan	Year 5 Isaac	Year 6 Kaiyah	Star of the week
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Just a reminder that we will be celebrating World Book Day in Week 2 when we return so please start thinking about ideas for dressing up (both at home and in school!) - we have many fun activities already planned to encourage our children to read more and celebrate reading for pleasure.

Enjoy the anticipated magical snowfall on Sunday and thank you again for working so hard to support your child's home learning.

Keep well and keep safe.

Kind regards,

Mrs Meyrick Headteacher

