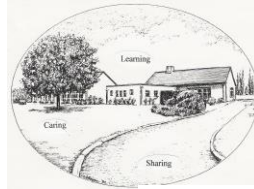


Byfleet Primary School

King's Head Lane
Byfleet
Surrey
KT14 7AT

Head Teacher
Mrs C Meyrick



Telephone: 01932 403116
Email: info@byfleet.surrey.sch.uk
Twitter: @byfleetprimary

Monday 14th September

Dear Parents/Carers

Week 2 has been a positive one with lots to celebrate. The children are settling well, persevering with learning the new one-way systems and social distancing in place around school and have enjoyed their first PE sessions with our sports coaches from *Ultimate Coaching*. Each day I visit classes and have been impressed with the quick start to the day, with all classes getting stuck into their learning with no time wasted. I have already had seen some wonderful work that the children have shared with me. We are aiming to start adding more of our children's work that we are proud of onto Twitter so do follow us on @byfleetprimary. We have also had some excellent role models, with some children awarded an *Outstanding Award* for their behaviour so early on in the term. Well done to these children in Year 6 –great start to the year!



Risk Assessment and Safety Update

With new government guidelines that came out this week, our Risk Assessment has been reviewed and updated in red text for ease of reading and is available on our school website – [click here](#). As part of the daily routine, staff are spending time reiterating our safety rules such as social distancing, following our one-way systems, keeping to designated playtime areas and sticking to 'bubbles within school. These messages are also reiterated each week in assembly so we are happy to see this having an impact with children adhering to these rules more readily. We want to thank you parents for continuing to socially distance themselves whilst lining up outside the school gates, in your child's designated areas. This week's staggered drop-off-and-collection has been much quicker with families leaving more promptly as a result of the routine they are getting into, which has made a big difference.

Bike and Scooter Rack

In a bid to reduce traffic on King's Head Lane, please walk, cycle or scoot into school. Our bike and scooter rack is open as usual (social distance please) so please feel free to use this facility. All personal items are left at your own risk so you are more than welcome to lock these if you wish. Currently Year 6 pupils may walk home alone, with parental permission. We would like to open this up to Year 5 children to also walk home alone if parents feel this is appropriate, in a bid to reduce congestion. We are happy to make the arrangements for Year 5/6 parents to meet their child at the start of King's Head Lane – please email the office to set up this arrangement.

Parking

We continue to notice cars pulling up outside the school gates, including pulling up along the bend in the road towards the parking area, to allow children/passengers to climb out of cars – please could you refrain from this; all cars entering King's Head Lane are to park up in a parking bay before letting children/passengers climb out. I have asked staff to please address any adult who does not support us with this so that we can ensure all children, adults and staff are kept safe and to reduce congestion during these peak hours. **We would prefer for parents to not drive into King's Head Lane where possible**, and to walk their children onto King's Head Lane instead. We also kindly ask that you consider the residents who live on King's Head Lane and not block the entrance to their driveways etc.

Remote Learning and Local Lock Down



At present, the staff are working hard on a contingency plan to ensure we can provide high-quality teaching and learning if a local or national lock down were to be put in place. We are excited to announce that we are moving to a platform called G-suite to use *Google Classroom* in the coming weeks, which the staff will be receiving training in. We will keep you updated on this exciting enhancement at Byfleet. [Read more about it here.](#)

Byfleet's Stance on Sickness Related Absence



It is inevitable that in the build up to winter, that our children (and staff) develop sniffles, sore throats and minor irritation coughs, that may be described as a common cold. Thank you to the parents who have contacted us to ask our advice on whether their children should self-isolate as a result. At present, unless your child presents with one of the COVID symptoms (high temperature 37.5C or higher, persistent cough and/or loss of smell/taste), we will treat their

absence as 'illness' rather than 'self-isolating'. Typically, if a child is ill, they will return to school within a day or two when they feel better. If your child demonstrates any of the COVID symptoms described, **do not** send them to school and make the necessary arrangements for a COVID test as soon as possible, siblings should also remain at home until test results are confirmed. Please ensure you let the school know on the **first day of absence** so that we can make the necessary arrangements. Once a positive test has been issued, then we will make contact with Public Health England Protection Surrey Team who will advise us on whether a class or bubble will be sent home to self-isolate for 14 days. It is not us at Byfleet who will make this decision, as we act on guidance from the PHE specialists. What I can assure you is that we will be open and transparent with all parents if/when a positive case has been confirmed, however we will not disclose which individual(s) this relates to. Safety is our absolute paramount priority!

If you would like to be reassured or have a private conversation with myself, Mrs Griffiths (our School Business Manager) or Mrs Segal (our Home School Link Worker), please get in touch with our office and we will be more than happy to run through any questions you may have. Please also ring 119 for further advice. Please continue to send your healthy children into school each day so that we can support their learning and routines – thanks.

Clubs



This week sees the start of our afterschool football club for Year 1/2 and Year 3/4 bubble with Ultimate Coaching. Gymnastics will start up in a few weeks' time so please look out for the letters sent out shortly to register. Whilst we feel strongly that we would like to offer as many enrichment and club opportunities to our children, we can only do so if this can be done safely and in line with our COVID arrangements. I am aware that some of our children participate in clubs beyond those on offer at Byfleet Primary, however I would just like to emphasise the DfE guidance on this:

'Parents are advised to limit the number of different out-of-school setting providers they access, as far as possible and seek assurance that the providers are carefully considering protective measures'.

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.

Curriculum Overviews

On Friday, your child brought home a few resources which we hope you will find useful to support their learning at home. With some of our children having been out of school for almost 6 months as a result of COVID, establishing a daily home routine where you set aside time to complete some work guided by the class teacher, to help them catch up and keep up, is imperative. In addition to daily reading (please write a comment in their reading diary daily), weekly spelling words and maths fluency (learning times tables), we have also provided a Homework Matrix, which are project based open-ended tasks that may be carried out independently or as a family. We look forward to seeing which homework activities the children have chosen to complete each week from their Homework Matrix – please do send in these projects or photographs you have taken of them completing these tasks. *You are more than welcome to add these to Twitter @byfleetprimary using #homework to share your children's learning if you wish.* We can't wait to celebrate their efforts where we have set aside time in the weekly timetable for the children to share their projects with their peers. This is part of our Recovery Curriculum approach, where we aim for all children to have a voice, share their experiences and build their confidence by sharing their learning with their peers in their class.



School Improvement



Traditionally we have 5 INSET days across the school year, which are used for in-school-educational-training for our staff, in line with our school development priorities. One of our priorities this year is to introduce and embed a mastery approach to maths. We have introduced a scheme called **Maths No Problem** in Year 1 – 5, which all staff have had training on in our September INSET days. This MNP approach to develop mastery in maths, is underpinned by our children being able to 'reason' about their understanding when finding answers to problems. There is less emphasis on getting the correct answer (whilst this is still important), and a greater focus on them being able to articulate and justify why the answer is correct. We look forward to hosting a virtual MNP maths Parent Workshop in this Autumn term.

Here is an example of where reasoning will be need to be applied:

A company decided to build offices over ground and underground.

If we build from -20 to 20 , we will have 40 floors.



Do you agree? Explain why.

Reception Children Start at Byfleet

It has been wonderful having our Reception children coming in for their staggered start with us. We officially welcome them to start **at 8.30 on Tuesday 22nd September**. As they will be the first group of children to enter school each morning with our staggered start times, the Year 4 designated area will remain where it is. However we will put a cone outside the pedestrian gate to ensure we leave approximately a 2 metre gap for the Reception families to enter the school gate and to avoid these two bubbles mixing. Could the Year 4 families please not arrive before 8.30 to ensure we keep congestion down, particularly from 22nd September when our new Reception children start full time with us.

I look forward to what Week 3 will bring – have an enjoyable week and thank you for bringing your children into school each day, if they are well enough to do so. Please liaise with the school office if you feel you need a second opinion about your child's cold symptoms.

Kind regards,
Mrs Meyrick
Headteacher