

Summer Term Newsletter



I cannot believe that I am writing to you already at the end of my first year as Headteacher at Bordesley Green Primary School. It has certainly had its challenges, and it will not be one that I will forget in a hurry. I would like to thank you all for making me feel so welcome this year, it has certainly been eventful, however, I cannot wait for the new year to begin. The last 14 weeks in particular have been testing, however, children have gradually returned to school in Reception and Years 1, 5 and 6. Unfortunately, we have not been able to welcome back the other year groups before the Summer holiday, however, we are all looking forward to seeing you again when school re-opens in September.

As the academic year comes to an end, a number of staff are leaving us - Miss Billett, who has taught in Year 1 and Year 2 this year, Mrs Day, who has taught classes throughout the school, and been with us for the last 8 years, Mrs Bi, who has taught in Year 3 and Miss Tapper who has taught in Year 6, thank you. Finally, a special mention to Mrs Yasin who is retiring after working at Bordesley Green for 29 years. I would like to say thank you to them for all of their hard work and support. I know that we will welcome you all back to Bordesley Green in the future.

I would also like to say good luck to all of our Year 6 pupils who are moving on to the challenge of Secondary School, I'm sorry that we could not give you a proper opportunity to say goodbye or to celebrate your time at Bordesley Green, however, you will all be missed but I know that you will continue to do really well next year.

I hope that you all have a good Summer break, stay safe and healthy. We will see you on the 3rd September.

Mr K. Holmes
Headteacher

Return to school

The government have released guidance this week with regards to schools reopening in September. The expectation is that all pupils will return and attendance is compulsory. There will still be some measures in place including staggered start and end times, regular hand washing and more frequent cleaning of classrooms and touch points. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school on **Thursday 3rd September**.

Children will be expected to wear school uniform to school from September. They **do not** need to bring pencil cases, but should have a water bottle which has their name on it. During the Autumn term, children will not be able to go home for lunch, this will be reviewed at the end of the term. If your child normally goes home for lunch they will need to bring a packed lunch or order a school dinner.

In September, school will open from 8.30am for Year 6 children and their siblings, followed by Year 5 and siblings at 8.40am, Years 3 and 4 and siblings at 8.50am followed by Years 1 and 2 at 9.00am.

All leaders and other staff will be on the playground to welcome you back on the first day, however, it is really important that you arrive at the correct time to drop your child off. You will receive further details by text message on 1st September. Please keep checking the school website for any further details.

Breakfast Club will begin from **Monday 7th September**, please contact the school office if you would like a place. Unfortunately, we will not be running any after school activities for at least the first half term.

Walk to school

During lockdown, there has been a reduction in traffic and many more families are walking to and from school. In order to reduce traffic congestion, keep your children safe and support social distancing on our return in September, please walk, scoot or cycle to school. Most families live close enough to walk to school. We also need to remind you that you can be fined for parking on zigzags outside of school. Areas need to be kept clear to keep your children safe when coming to and leaving school at the end of the day. To help with this, we have asked the local police and PSCO to support keeping the area clear and safe.

School Office Reminders

The school office will remain closed to parents and visitors on our return unless an appointment has been made and communication is encouraged to continue by telephone and email. We have a new email address set up directly to the office staff which is office@bordsgrn.bham.sch.uk and, of course, you can continue to call. Please note the phones will be manned between the hours of 8:15am and 4:00pm only.

In order to maintain social distancing and restrict movement you are reminded that appointments for children should be made outside of the school day and you should not arrive at school to collect children without notice.

From September KS2 children will no longer be served toast and/or milkshakes/juice, but instead will be offered a choice of a piece of fruit at mid-morning break and water is available for pupils to drink throughout the day. Payments that were made through ParentPay in advance for toast will be adjusted, and we will let you know how we will refund or transfer balances for applicable pupils. Payments made in advance for dinner money will automatically transfer across for September, and you will be notified of these balances over the next few weeks if your account is in credit. You will also be receiving a notification of accounts that hold an outstanding debt, and these will need to be cleared.

We will be working on the Meal Manager system during the summer holidays so that from September you will be able to order and pay for meals, and instantly see your outstanding balance. This should be available to you from 1st September.

Training Days

School will be closed on the following days for Staff Training Days next year:

- Tuesday 1st September and Wednesday 2nd September 2020
- Friday 25th September 2020
- Monday 4th January 2021
- Monday 19th January 2021

And finally,

One of our very talented teachers wrote a poem about returning to school following lockdown, they would rather remain anonymous, however, have given permission for me to share it with you all.

Our New Normal by a Talented Bordesley Green Teacher

*I walked into our classroom, on that very first day
Would you even want to stay?
The room had been denied laughter for so very long
The whole concept felt alien and wrong
The desks were so very far apart
I had such a heavy feeling in my heart
You each had your own colour tray
This was certainly going to be a different way
Then suddenly the school bell started
It had been 10 weeks since we were parted
Silently you entered in
Butterflies fluttered underneath my skin
But then I saw your smiling faces
You all walked in and took your places
So happy to be back
Your little hands explored your trays and started to unpack
We laughed and learnt new things together
We would certainly remember this time forever
Your strength and attitude amazed me*

*This strange, new classroom was now such a happy place to be
 I had been scared that you wouldn't keep your distance
 But you have shown so very much resilience
 How could I have been so wrong?
 I should have really known it all along
 Bordesley Green is the best school I heard
 I certainly do have the best job in the world
 To teach amazing children like you
 We always have fun together and that is the best thing that we do*

Diary Dates

Tuesday 1st September-Training Day (SCHOOL CLOSED)
Wednesday 2nd September-Training Day (SCHOOL CLOSED)
Thursday 3rd September - Year 1-Year 6 children return to school. - Nursery parents meetings begin - Reception story time sessions all day
Monday 7th September - 15 children from each Reception class start school - Nursery parents meetings continue
Monday 14th September - Remaining 15 children from each Reception class start school - Nursery Stay and Play sessions
Tuesday 15th September - First Nursery intake start school
Monday 21st September - Last Nursery intake start school
Friday 25th September - Training Day (SCHOOL CLOSED)
Wednesday 21st October - Parents Consultation Evening
Friday 23rd October - School closes for half term
Monday 2nd November - Children return to school

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Leadership team, Mrs Denton (AHT for Phase 1), Miss Dovey (SENDSCO and AHT for Phase 2), Miss Pennington (AHT for Phase 3), Miss Clayton (AHT for Curriculum), Ms Burgess (Deputy Headteacher) or I.