

# Autumn Term Newsletter 2



As we reach the final two weeks of term, I would like to say thank you to you all for your support this term. It has had its challenges however we have ensured that with the measures we have put in place and the threat of COVID-19 we have stayed open to the majority of pupils for much of the term, thank you for your support in following our guidance at the start and end of the day and with contacting the school. The measures will remain in place next term and I ask that you continue to wear face coverings on the school grounds, maintain social distancing and contact the school by phone or email. It is also essential that if your child or a member of the family is displaying symptoms that everyone in the household isolates until a test has been completed and a negative result returned.

I would also like to give my thanks to everyone who works in school, it has been a real team effort this term in which everyone has played their part to ensure that your children are supported as they returned to school.

It will not be a normal end to the autumn term in school this year, however we will be having Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, I know that everyone is looking forward to watching the pantomime Cinderella online and taking part or watching Bordesley Green Xmas Factor on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, followed by non-uniform day on the last day of term.

We return to school on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January**. Thank you again for all of your support this term, have an enjoyable and restful Christmas period.

Mr K.Holmes  
Headteacher

## **Message from the Chair of Governors**

Dear Parents/Carers,

It seems another school term has flown by and we are now on the countdown to Christmas.

Our Governing Body has gone from strength to strength and we now have a full complement of governors, who bring a wealth of experience to the school in order to further support its development.

2020 has been turbulent to say the least and I'm sure in the face of adversity, we have learnt so much and identified all we have to be grateful for. We as governors are very proud of our pupils for their continued resilience, excellent behaviour and positive attitude towards learning that they have maintained during these challenging times.

It is extremely important to thank you as Parents/Carers, because without you, these children would not be able to get to school and also when we have had to unfortunately close, you will no doubt have had to change your circumstances to accommodate pupils having to stay at home and we fully appreciate how hard this was, especially adapting to remote learning.

Finally, to our amazing and dedicated staff. They will forever be remembered for being the generation of key workers who worked tirelessly and without question to ensure our children were still able to access their education during an unprecedented global pandemic. Despite their own challenges of loss or illness of friends and family, the staff are there to do everything possible to make sure pupils and families are safe and have what they need. Their efforts, commitment, diligence and creativity has been relentless to ensure learning continues.

We believe we are now starting to see some light at the end of the tunnel, and we are hopeful that 2021 will see us all return to some form of normality. We wish you all a restful Christmas period with your loved ones.

Thank you again for your continued support to our school and community.

On behalf of the governing Body,

James Whelton  
Chair of Governors

**Staffing news**

Miss Pennington, Assistant Headteacher for Years 4,5 and 6 will be starting her maternity leave in January. I am sure you will all join me in saying congratulations and good luck. Mr Austin, will be stepping into the role of AHT for the next two terms. We welcome back Miss McCone who will be teaching 6A for the rest of this academic year. I would also like to welcome Miss O'Connell who is joining the Bordesley Green family to lead interventions in upper Key Stage 2.

In Nursery, Ms Innis is now working part time, leading interventions in Reception and Year 1. Miss Billett is returning to teach Nursery for the rest of this year.

**Attendance and Punctuality**

It is important that your children are on time and in school every day. The school gates are open from 8.30am each morning and school starts at 8.40am. Holidays during term time are not permitted and cannot be authorised. It is compulsory for your child to be in school every day and on time.

If your child has any of the coronavirus symptoms; a continuous cough, high temperature or a loss or change to the sense of smell or taste then it is essential that you request a Coronavirus test straight away and that they isolate until the test result is returned. Once you have received the test result, please let us know straight away. If a child or staff member receives a positive test, the class bubble will close for two weeks and everyone in the bubble **must** isolate.

**Parking around school**

I understand how difficult it is to park near to school each day however I would like to request that you are patient when trying to park or drive by the school. If at all possible please walk to school or park a little further away and walk, this will reduce traffic and help us to keep everyone safe. Thank you.

We held a "Kill your speed" Poster or Poem competition in school. Thank you to everyone who took part. Well done to the following children who were successful.

5S Sumaiya, Hannah, Adara and Marta  
3H Nasrullah  
2E Aneesah

**Well-being and support**

At Bordesley Green Primary School we continue to support our children's mental health and wellbeing. We provide a safe, focused and happy environment for learning. If you feel that you or your child is struggling to cope with changes such as bereavement, transition or anything else, then please contact Miss Ahmed or Mr O'Neil. You can email them at [learningmentors@bordsgrn.bham.sch.uk](mailto:learningmentors@bordsgrn.bham.sch.uk) or call the school office to speak to them. Miss Ahmed and Mr O'Neil are also in the playground at home time. Emotional and mental wellbeing

defines how we feel, you are not alone, talk to someone you trust, sharing a problem is often the first step to recovery.

**Reading Eggs**

A quick reminder that all children in school have now been given their individual login information for Reading Eggs. Reading Eggs is a multi-award winning online library with highly interactive books and activities that allow your child to build their reading skills at their own pace. The programme includes Reading Eggs, which helps children with their fluency and phonics, and Reading Eggspress, which develops reading comprehension. As children complete activities, they will earn eggs that they can spend on fun reading games and challenges.



Any children that earn certificates will have them printed and sent home so that they can share achievements with their family. We also have a weekly competition at school to see which children have spent the most time on Reading Eggs in each key stage. The winners are rewarded with a prize! Each week, class teachers set one piece of Reading homework on either Reading Eggs or Reading Eggspress that all children must complete as part of their homework. Children can access Reading Eggs and Reading Eggspress at home on a desktop, laptop or tablet device.

Visit the website at: [www.Readingeggs.co.uk](http://www.Readingeggs.co.uk) or download the app.

If for any reason, your child cannot access Reading Eggs, you should speak to your child's class teacher so that they can make alternative arrangements.

**TT Rockstars**

Just a quick reminder about Times Table Rockstars. You should be aware that all children have access to this brilliant resource. It's a fun and engaging way for your child to learn their times tables. It can be accessed on a laptop/pc or downloaded as an app for mobile devices/tablets.

Children should be accessing TT Rockstars daily and completing 'studio' sessions. Children in years 3 and 4 also need to make sure they are completing a 'soundcheck' activity at least once per week. The soundcheck replicates the national multiplication tables check that the children take during their summer term in Year 4. Children in Year 4 should be aiming for a soundcheck score of at least 22 out of 25 each time.

Each week, league tables for TT Rockstars in years 2 to 6 are updated and displayed around the school. The children who have the best scores in the 'Studio' receive either a bronze, silver and gold certificate from Mr Austin or Mrs Davies. Please make sure your children are making the most of their subscription. It really does help.

Thanks,

Mr Austin and Mrs Davies.

**Medical Appointments**

Please book any medical appointments outside of school hours, or during the holidays if it is a routine check-up with the dentist or optician. Appointments during school time should be avoided.

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 (SEND/CO and AHT for Phase 2), Miss Pennington (AHT for Phase 3), Miss Clayton (AHT for Curriculum), Ms Burgess (Deputy Headteacher) or I.