Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School Newsletter

1653

14th January 2022

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back!

We have had a great couple of weeks back and have been delighted with our children's positive and engaging work ethic as they commence the Spring term. Class 4 have had a trip linked to their topic and other classes are busy booking theirs. Please regularly visit our website or the school spider app to view the blogs to see what your children are doing in school.

Update on the Contingency Plan

I wrote last week in our welcome back letter to outline some of the changes in the Government measures for Covid and schools. Our updated risk assessment can be found on our website. Since we started back, the Government stated that if you have a positive LFT test, with no symptoms, you are not required to seek a confirmatory PCR test, but rather required to self isolate for the 10 days (or from Monday, you can leave self isolation early after two negative LFT tests on day 5 and 6 with 24 hours apart). I have amended our risk assessment further to show this and school will advise families where we are aware of significant contact with a positive PCR test result.

Test and Trace are contact tracing but we hope by alerting you to the fact this has happened, families can make provision for LFT testing twice weekly in order to reduce transmission. If your child is identified as a close contact, the guidance strongly recommends daily LFT testing for 7 days. We continue to follow Lancashire Health Authority advice that additional precautions will not be actioned until 5 cases with a class or 10% of the school if affected by positive COVID results. However, as a school we have kept most of the additional measures from before Christmas for the start of term to monitor what happens in school and our community. We will continue to keep you updated. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Office opening hours

The school office will be staffed between 8.15 and 4.15 each day and both Mrs Carlyon and Mrs Mitchell will cover those hours. If you would like to call outside those hours, it may go to answerphone. You are able to email bursar@bretherton.lancs.sch.uk at anytime, and they will action this within 24 hours. However, if within the office hours, they will try and address it the same day. If your child is absent, you may email or call the office before 9.30am on their day of absence.

If you would like to speak to your child's class teacher, please catch them at the end of the school day unless you would like a meeting which can be arranged by contacting the school office. If you would like your child to attend a staff run club, please complete the google form link on the email letter about it, the office will confirm receipt and the payments added to School Money. We hope that the children enjoy participating in them.

PTFA

I hope that you agree, the PTFA did a wonderful job with our Christmas festivities and the tree was lovely. Thank you for making it a magical time for all. The PTFA met on Monday for a planning meeting and will share with you some of the plans for 2022. As always, we would really value your involvement. If you would find it difficult to attend meetings but would like to access via zoom, let Tasha know as this blended approach may facilitate more of our families taking part and sharing their ideas.

Thanks again for your support.

We need you!

ptfa@bretherton.lancs.sch.uk

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please continue to leave from the front gate near the entrance to school rather than the car park as it is dangerous as cars are accessing throughout the start and end of day.

Car park is for staff and volunteers only please. However, if you have any specific needs, come and speak to us about it.

TWITTER for school

For those of you on Twitter, to keep you right up to date with the great learning and sporting opportunities we have our twitter feed @BrethertonEP



FURTHER INFORMATION

Our value this term is Generosity
A generous person will prosper whoever refreshes others will be refreshed
Proverb 11:25

After school clubs

We have started the term with the usual after school clubs and these can be found on the last page of this newsletter. Staff can't wait to run a few more and these will commence after the first couple of weeks of this term due to potential risk to staff.

PTFA support

Thank you in advance for supporting the PTFA this year with ideas, your time and your generosity. This year, the PTFA had already committed to supporting our running track which is being completed this month. But due to the lack of events over the last 2 years due to Covid restrictions, we will be looking for new and creative ways to raise ever needed funds. If you know of any ways to help, please contact the PTFA Facebook page. Your contributions and their hard work are invaluable.

Attendance

Our absence figures are 94.88% for the Autumn term which is higher than the national attendance figures of 95.3%. However we appreciate parents support in the tricky balance of maximising attendance whilst following the Government Covid guidelines. Thank you for your support in these challenging times.

Remote learning

It is a statutory responsibility of schools to provide remote learning in the event of your child not being in school due to self isolation or an planned National Lockdown. We are continually developing our Google classroom provision with our children and families and this will be where we set work for children not in school. We understand the importance of ensuring that children who are well are able to access learning at home, however, we also know that a child who is unwell with Covid or any other illness, they may not be able to access remote learning at all as all their energy will go into getting well. So if your child is off after testing positive for Covid-19, we will ask you to let us know whether learning is required and meet those expectation. However, if your child is off school because they have been asked by Test and Trace to self isolate or are at home because they are a close contact of a positive case in the household, we will set work for them. Teachers will feedback to their learning, however, this may not be immediate. Please contact us if you or your child requires any support. If we could remind everyone again to have your child's Google login and password written down so you can access it when required.

Chrome Book 1 to 1 scheme

We have offered parents of children in Year 2, access to the 1 to 1 Chromebook device scheme that we rolled out for year 3,4,5, last year. It has revolutionised our teaching and learning in classes and is allowing children to access personalised learning to promote catch up this year as well as enriching their knowledge and understanding of our curriculum. If any parents didn't access the scheme last year from our current year 3,4,5.6 please contact school if you would like to take up the offer this time. The 1 to 1 scheme allows for your child to access their own device in school and at home. The devices for Year 2 will be ordered and delivered this month so if any parents have not confirmed they would like to access the scheme, please get in touch with school as soon as possible.

National Tutoring/ In School Tutoring

Attached to this newsletter is a document that outlines the support provided for schools in order to support children to 'catch up' their education after the national lockdowns. As a small school with low numbers of children in receipt of free school meals, our funding is low. However, we intend to use it wisely and so will be planning for small group intervention programmes for children who we feel are not currently at the age related expectation or on track with their expected progress and that could, with small group support, build confidence and knowledge in order to reach it. These sessions, subsidised by the Catch up funding, run for 1 hour a week for 15 weeks in maximum groups of 3. At Bretherton, we have chosen that these will be planned for and taught by our staff rather than external teacher due to the prior knowledge and relationships they have with our children. We will be contacting parents of children we feel would benefit from this additional support and in what area of the curriculum eg. English and/or maths. Please have a look at the document attached for further information.

This programme is in addition to our whole school catch up plans of core skills teaching, additional teaching assistant hours in school and ongoing assessment and pupil discussions with pupils on how we can help them in their learning.

FURTHER INFORMATION

National online safety

Thank you for reviewing the content on the National Online Safety Website—I hope that you found it useful. Their webinars are up to date and highlight to parents the easy ways they can set up parental controls, monitor their child's use of the internet and time online and allow parents to keep 'up to date' with all the potential and hazards that can be found online. We will alert you again to the content nearer online safety day in February and the children will share their knowledge with you.

Charity leadership from pupils

Sophia and Freya in Year 6 are planning a charity event to raise money for Alzheimer Society and Animal Rescue on a Friday afternoon in February after the construction of our running track. They will send some more information out nearer the time, but we are so proud of their commitment and passion for helping others and their organisational skills so far have been superb.

Parent Forum Meetings 2022

A letter went out this week to invite you to feedback on topics for the Parent forum meeting to discuss this term. We do value your feedback on the direction of school and for you to feed into our policies. Thank you in completing this.

Sports clubs in our area

We always like promoting local clubs for our children and I have details of Tarleton Rugby Club Juniors who are always looking for new children to start. If you would like to know more about training for boys and girls of any age and attend their training on Tuesday evening 6.00-7.00 at Tarleton, please call Dave on 07746038476.

If you are involved with, or know of any local clubs who are looking to recruit new children, please let us know the details.

Reception places September 2022

A gentle reminder that the last date for applying for your child's reception 2022 place is near. Please complete the online form by 15th January 2022.

Naming of your child's uniform

Please can we ask you to check your child's uniform, footwear and coats have a clear name in as we are finding a large amount of uniform left that we cannot return to the owner.

In addition, please could all children bring a waterproof and warm coat to school as we are typically out in most weathers.

CURRENT AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS THIS HALF TERM

CLUB	Day	Contact Details
JuJitsu	Mondays	Nippon UK : 01772 497838
Spanish	Tuesdays	Alison Powell : 01704 620817/07903 388433
Tennis	Tuesdays	Stuart Grice : 07709 816951
Art	Thursdays	Rosie Stanfield : 01772 601410/07534 369861