

# Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School Newsletter



11th September 2020

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### *Welcome to our newsletter at the start of the 2020 2021 school year*

I do long for a time that I can write a newsletter without starting with an entry on Covid but for the time being I think this may not be the case. I hope not to have to update you with changes too often but want to be able to keep you in the loop as the Government guidance changes. THANK YOU for helping with the one way system at home time. I was worried about children walking on the road edge as they walk around to meet parents and passing other parents at the railings but coming into the playground, socially distancing and walking out along the front of school in the one way system, has already reduced those risks. Thank you for your help and support. If there is anything you are unsure about or you wish to feedback, I am available daily on the gate.

### Education at Bretherton

We have returned to school with our re-connect curriculum and children have been given time to share lockdown stories, ask questions, and reflect on their experience of living history. However, having great work ethic and motivated for learning your children have already started revisiting key objectives in Maths and English and their teachers are pleased at how well they are working. Thank you for supporting them throughout home learning as we are confident this will help them get back on track. Homework will commence next week and may involve some elements of Spellingshed; Timetables Rockstars; but teachers will outline them each week.

### Supporting our families and community

The Parish Council have been incredibly proactive in their support of our community and families over the Covid lockdown. They have been distributing donations of Morrison's vouchers to families who may need a little help at this time and have tried to secure funding and grants for future support. If you feel that you would benefit from some support, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Moxham directly in confidence and this will be arranged. Please remember to look at our website for details about applying for Pupil Premium. It's important to claim if you are able as it provides free school meals and pays school a lump sum every year to support children's learning and we can support you in purchasing trips, uniform and clubs.

### **PTFA Update**

*The PTFA at Bretherton are a wonderful group of families and friends who organise brilliant social events and raise thousands of pounds for school. Over the last couple of years they have bought resources for reception, our wifi network upgrade, 30 lynx tablets, guided reading books, lunchtime toys, topic resources, IT trolley, subsidised coaches for trips, and so much more. Their work is vital for our school as school budgets are always under strain. Over the last two years, the canopy and outdoor area in Reception and our new MUGA have been fully paid for by grants and donations and of course our new reading book scheme and tables in class 3 through your children's sponsorship events. Thank you for all you do to support and help.*

*We hope to have some events this term even if they are virtual or in family groups outdoors but we will be creative to try and keep us connected.*

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Please can I remind everyone to park carefully at drop off and collection times of day. The school gates will be closed most times just available for parents using The HUB for dropping off at breakfast club and collecting from after school club.

Careful parking means that you **MUST NOT** park on or opposite the yellow hazards outside school.

### **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



Remember our door is always open— contact us on [bursar@bretherton.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@bretherton.lancs.sch.uk)

or 01772 600431 to arrange a chat

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### THEME OF WORSHIP — *Respect*

*In all things you yourself must be an example of good behaviour. Be sincere and serious in your teaching (Titus 2:7)*

#### Availability

I have the delight of teaching Year 6 on Friday all day which I am really looking forward to, however, it does mean that I may not be available during the day to contact or meet with parents or professionals unless urgent but I would be more than happy to contact you after school

#### Admissions for Reception class 2021

It always seems strange talking about next year when we haven't got our lovely new Reception class in full time but families will be looking at where they may wish their child to go starting September 2021. We are looking into how we can offer tours of the school and are offering half hour slots on Thursday mornings from w/c 28th September so if you are able to ring and arrange a time to visit then we should be able to accommodate this. Information on our school is on the website so you can have a 'virtual' feel of how our school feels day to day. We look forward to showing our wonderful school and are available for any question that you may have. One of our admission criteria is provision of a faith reference which as Churches have been closed is a tricky situation. Luckily, Blackburn Diocese has applied for a variation on behalf of all of their Church of England schools but as yet we have not heard whether this has been agreed. We will keep you updated on the website.

#### Pre- School

We are excited that our Pre school session will commence on **Thursday 24th September 2020**. If you are applying for a place at Bretherton for September 2021 start, please call the office to find out more about our Pre school session. It runs Thursdays 1.30—3.00pm with Mrs Vincent.

#### Swimming

West Lancashire Sports Partnership (WLSP) are working hard to resume swimming for schools. They are completing their risk assessment as we speak and we hope to have further information for parents and children of Class 2 who would start swimming on an afternoons once this is finalised. A separate letter will be sent in order for you to get their kit ready but if you have any questions or concerns before they commence, please contact school.

#### The HUB

It has been lovely to see smiling faces in The HUB in the morning and afternoon sessions. Sadly we are unable to operate The HUB in the same class bubbles as during the day but to try and reduce the risk of mixing, we are forming two bubbles within same area (socially distanced) for class 1 and 2 then class 3 and 4 children. This works well as the children generally like to play with different resources and those resources can be rotated for cleaning. We hope that the children won't notice a significant difference and the staff are in tune with making The HUB a fun, enjoyable yet safe experience.

#### Attendance and Covid

Thank you for supporting your child's return to school. Thank you to our families for following the guidance regarding keeping your children off school in the event of feeling poorly as we know that the start of the Autumn term always brings its fair share of colds. If your child has any of the prescribed symptoms, please keep them off school and seek a test. If they are unwell, lethargic, bad headaches and generally unwell, we know that you would want to keep them off school until they are better so you can monitor their symptoms and help them get better. Working together we can all stay safe. An additional letter outlining our policy for managing an outbreak is attached to this letter and added to the Covid tab under 'About us' on the website should you need to refer to it. It also outlines the telephone numbers and brief explanation of what happens if you need to go for a test, hopefully to help and reassure you. Thank you for your support and understanding.

#### Meet the teacher

We hope that you got to speak to your child's class teacher on Wednesday if you had any questions or wanted to share information. We sent the class routines in a letter and an outline of the topics and expected learning for their year. If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact the school office.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & DATES FOR DIARY/CLUB INFORMATION**

### **Help in landscaping an area behind the Hub**

We have an area behind the Hub which is currently landscaped with gravel and we would like to remove this, level hard-core and sand and lay artificial grass that we have bought for a comfortable area for the children at the Hub to play. If you think you can help, we would love to hear from you. A few hands make light work! Maybe we could gather help for a Saturday morning with the promise work! Maybe we could gather help for a Saturday morning with the promise of a breakfast sandwich for the workers!

### **Volunteers**

Bretherton has always been blessed by the number and quality of adult volunteers who are happy to come into school and support us in our children's education. They are fantastic at supporting children's reading, providing regular 1 to 1, offering administrative support to teachers to free up their time for teaching and even help us run our Toddler Club and Pre school on occasions. We are going to tread cautiously in inviting volunteers back into school and we have created a protocol to help explain how to mitigate any risks to staff, children and volunteers in the attached letter. As always though, we require the necessary DBS checks which all our volunteers have willingly agreed to so if you are interested in helping and are new to it, please contact the office for more details. We are hoping once volunteers have approached us with interest in starting back we can resume the sessions towards the end of September. Thanks again for your continued support.

### **Toddlers**

After the Government announcement this week, we don't feel we can plan to open Toddlers for the scheduled date of September 25th. We love operating the toddler session and we are grateful for our volunteer organisers and parents/grandparents who attend but feel we can't plan a Covid considered session that would work for everyone. We will continue to review this and keep you informed.

### **'Hello Autumn' Lunch**

Join us for our 'Hello Autumn' Lunch to take place on Thursday 1st October 2020. If you would like your child to join in this themed lunch, they just need to advise their class teacher on the morning during registration.

## **CLUBS – 1st HALF AUTUMN TERM 2020**

NAME OF CLUB	YEAR GROUP	DAY	TIME	DATES
Spanish Club	Various	Tuesdays	3.20-4.20pm	15/9-20/10/20 (6 weeks)
Tennis Club	Years 1/2/3	Tuesdays	3.15-4.15pm	15/9-20/10/20 (6 weeks)

## **REGULAR PRIVATE PROVIDER CLUB INFORMATION**

Contact details if you would like for your child to participate :

CLUB	DAY	TIME	CONTACT DETAILS
TENNIS	Tuesday	3.15-4.15pm	Stuart Grice—07709 816951
SPANISH	Tuesday	3.15-4.15pm	Alison Powell—01772 616188