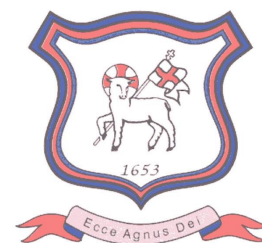


Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School Newsletter

25th March 2022



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Dear Parents,

Well the sun has begun to shine for Spring and there is new life all around. Our resident family of ducks are back and it is lovely to see them enjoying our school field. The children are excited to be accessing the field and are busy creating dens and hideaways with wonderful imagination.

Sadly, we are managing a run of positive Covid cases in school. We have planned in enhanced cleaning and reminded children to wash hands and use sanitiser regularly. We hope that everyone recovers quickly. Although the Robinwood assembly was cancelled due to children being away from school, we will try and keep all other planned events.

Covid reminders

If your child tests positive for Covid-19, please keep them off school until they test negative, which may be around day 5-10. If there is a positive case within the household and you are able to keep your child off school, we will provide remote learning for them. If this is not possible and they attend school, if we could ask you to test daily so that we can minimise the spread within school and in other classes. Thank you for contacting us to inform us. Although, we are not reporting positive cases to the Local Authority anymore, it does help us take additional mitigating measures in school if we can have a full picture of the impact of Covid. However, if I can remind you that we are not responsible for track and trace. As we did this time, when we have growing numbers, we will inform our school community of this, but we will not inform individuals that they are close contacts—these contacts can be declared to test and trace if required by them.

At school, we are not in bubbles and so we cannot easily identify contacts. We will however, move to part 2 of our risk assessment if we get significant numbers in a class or overall in school and will let you know.

Advanced information of statutory assessments

Week commencing 9th May, Year 6 will be sitting their Key Stage 2 SAT's tests. We will be preparing children so that they feel confident and ready to undertake these necessary benchmarks for high school.

In June Year 4 will be completing their statutory times table check online and Year 1's will be completing their phonics screening assessment. Year 2 will be completing their Key Stage 1 SATs. Children will not know that this is an assessment, they will be made to feel comfortable and it will feel like a usual lesson.

Updated Anti-Bullying Policy

I would like to share our Anti-bullying policy with you. We have used up to date research and recommendations to underpin our policy and staff will be trained to ensure that everyone is confident in applying it. We will continue to teach children that we do not tolerate bullying at Bretherton and ensure they know what to do if they are concerned.

PTFA

This is a call out to any parents but in particular parents of children in Class 1 or 2 to attend our next PTFA meeting. We would love to have your ideas and welcome you to our PTFA after many months not being able to meet. If you are able to come—how about bringing a friend. The next meeting is Monday 25th April

IMPORTANT DATES

25th March Mothers Day Afternoon Tea
28th March Easter Service 9.30 St John's
30th March Egg rolling in school
30th March Easter Bingo
31st—1st April Hothersall Lodge—class 3
1st April Last day of school

Dates after half term

9th May KS2 Sats all week
20th May Sports Day—date 1 including Summer Fair
23rd May Arts Week (if you can support this—please get in touch with Miss Hymers)
26th May Reception New Parents Meeting
27th May Our Jubilee Garden Party
27th May end of term

Remember our door is always open— contact us on bursar@bretherton.lancs.sch.uk

or 01772 600431 to arrange a chat

FURTHER INFORMATION

REMINDERS

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Today is our wonderful Mother's Day Afternoon Tea. We hope that you all enjoy this and your special day with loved ones this weekend.

Easter Special Assembly

On Monday, we will be holding our Easter assembly for the whole school led by Year 6 who will be walking us through the Easter story and we will sing together our favourite Easter worship songs.

Chocolate donations for Bingo

Thank you for donating chocolate for our Easter Bingo next Wednesday. The letter has been sent via the school office on behalf of the PTFA. I hope that you can make it. Remember to book your food and seats so that we can prepare enough tables and chairs for this great fun night. Tommy has his calling waistcoat ready. Remember to complete the forms and send them into the school office with the correct money for the attention of the PTFA.

Egg rolling

One of the best memory makers of the year, next Wednesday, we will be holding our Easter egg rolling eggtravaganza! If your child can bring into school a boiled egg (decorated or painted), each class will have an egg rolling competition and the winner for each year group will win an egg. We are always grateful for some children bringing extra ones in for any children who don't remember to bring one. This will happen during the day for each class and is such fun!

3D Printer

We are fortunate to be chosen to receive a 3D Printer from DATA (Design and Technology Association) for a half term so that we can enrich our curriculum. We can't wait to teach children how they are being used in many aspects of life and inspire STEM careers. I have attached a letter to this newsletter to ask for support from companies or industries in purchasing a 3D printer for our school. If you know of any companies who may support design in our school and who may contribute towards this, please pass the letter onto them. It would be great to be able to secure this for our children.

Class 3 residential to Hothersall Lodge

Class 3 will be attending Hothersall lodge for the last 2 days of term next week. We can't wait to go and have jam packed timetables waiting for them. Please remember to refer to the kit list, a warm waterproof coat and water bottle. All medicine should be brought in a labelled bag on the morning next Thursday. We will be setting off mid morning and so are unable to wave us off but I will text and update parents as the day unfolds.

What's been going on?

Choir event

Our wonderful choir left their mark on the whole hall at Tarleton Academy last week when they performed three songs at the TARDIS performing Arts Festival. They were absolutely superb and even got a standing ovation from teachers from another school. Truly inspirational. Thank you to the children and staff, in particular Mrs Clarke for her sterling work and commitment. The joy could be seen in every one of the choir's faces and it moved me to see them sing with such passion.

World Poetry Day

On Monday this week, Rogan Mills came into school to work with Class 1,2,3 on learning some Performance Poetry. They were inspired to learn and present the poetry and all children participated and engaged well with the session. We look forward to a performance poetry day again in the Summer term, where we will perform our poems to an audience.

Class 1 Assembly

Thank you to Class 1 for a wonderful class assembly. We loved finding out about your learning about Spring and new life. It was lovely to celebrate mums ahead of Mother's Day too. It's so wonderful to see our youngest children so full of confidence and passion for learning. Well done each and everyone of you.

Robinwood

Year 6 were awesome in their residential. The leaders from Robinwood continually commented on how well behaved our children were and what lovely manners they had. They were full of smiles and laughter the whole time and it was a privilege to be able to spend this time with them. Everyone faced a fear and overcame them and we are incredibly proud of them. Thank you to the staff who attended and gave their time in the evening to the children and the events, without you we wouldn't be able to go. Thank you to parents for supporting the trip.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Our value this term is Compassion
The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love
Psalm 145:8

CLUBS FOR THIS FORTHCOMING HALF TERM

Monday—Jujitsu 3.15-4.15pm -Nippon UK: 01772 497838
Monday—Bingo 3.15—4.15pm—School Office : 0177 600431
Tuesday—Circuit Training 8.05am—8.45am—School Office: 01772 600431
Tuesday—Spanish—Alison Powell 01704 620817/08903 388433
Tuesday—Chess 3.15-4.15pm—School Office : 01772 600431
Tuesday— Tennis—Stuart Grice: 07709 816951
Tuesday—Gardening 3.15-4.15pm—School Office : 01772 600431
Thursday—Art 3.15-4.15pm—Rosie Stanfield : 01772 601410/07534 369861

Advance notice of Safeguarding training for Governors, staff and all volunteers on 11th May 2022 at 3.30pm.

New Synthetic Phonics and Early Reading Scheme

We are excited to announce that we have a wonderful new synthetic phonics scheme in school that has been validated by the DFE. Last year, The DFE outlined to school a set of expectations for the teaching of phonics as part of a school's early reading curriculum. They believe that by ensuring schools have high quality phonics teaching , it will improve literacy levels to give children a solid base upon which to build as they progress through school and it aims to help children develop the habit of reading widely and often , for pleasure and information. At Bretherton, we have always been proud of our phonics teaching and our children's phonic progress and Year 1's do very well in their phonics assessment. However, we never rest on our laurels and we decided to research the validated schemes to see if any of them could offer more for our children. Monster Phonics, the scheme that we have chosen, and children make progress because it offers a comprehensive, meaningful, interactive programme that is easy to understand. It colour codes the graphemes linked to phonemes, has great characters that bring phonics to life and all planning is multi sensory requiring reading, writing, singing and actions. It is truly child centred.

This has cost school a significant amount of money for the teacher training, planning resources and videos and up to date new reading books. This scheme will be taught from starting in reception throughout key stage 1 and beyond for any children who are finding reading hard. Mrs Clarke, English lead, will outline more about the scheme in the summer term, however , I wanted to outline the change so that you are aware of it when the new books come home. We still have some later books to purchase, that we would like PTFA to support funding, but if you are aware of any businesses or individuals **that would like to sponsor a set of books for class 2**, please let the school office know. Each group of books is @£300 but any contribution towards them would be hugely appreciated. Reading is a fundamental skill that underpins lifelong success in education. Anything we can do to provide this in an effective way - we will grab with both hands. **Mrs Clarke will be running a zoom for parents, in particular parents of Class 1 and 2 children midway in the next half term.**

Swiss student teachers visiting Bretherton in June

In the past we have welcomed student teachers from abroad to learn about our education system and be involved in our classes. They are hoping to resume the link this year and so we are looking for host families who are willing to have a young adult or two (as they don't mind sharing) in your home while they are in school. If you have a spare room and are willing to support this worthwhile initiative for the dates from **26th June to 9th July**, please contact the school office. you receive a bursary for the cost of additional food in the evening and weekend and we provide food for lunch during the week. **We hope that you can help.**

Welcome to Enzo and Ellis who are our newest members of Class 2 and 3. We will ensure that they feel like part of the family straight away.

School will end for the Easter Holidays next Friday 1st April at 3.15pm. Please ensure that you contact The Hub if your child needs a place. We will welcome everyone back on Tuesday 19th April. We hope that you all have a lovely break and have some relaxing and memorable family time.