

Bedfont Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 16th October



Dear Parents/Carers

We are rapidly approaching half term and I wanted to thank all the parents and carers for the support they have given to the school this half term. The children have adapted incredibly well to our change of circumstances in school and we are very proud of them. Please support me with Dear Teacher homework that is described below.

COVID 19— IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We had one positive case of COVID 19 reported in our school today (Friday). I carried out all of the appropriate actions which included contacting the Department for Education (Central Government) and also the Director for Public Health for Hounslow.

Public Health England carried out a risk assessment. The instruction that she gave the school was to close the bubble and ask staff and children to isolate for 14 days.

This experience has been a reminder of the importance of remaining vigilant and careful.

A few reminders to parents:

Parents **MUST** socially distance from one another when queuing up and when around the school. Keep looking around you — are you 2 metres away from others at all times?

Monitor your own health and that of your family closely.

Watch for a high temperature, a new, persistent cough or a loss of taste or smell. If any of you have any of these symptoms, you must all isolate until the person with symptoms has been tested. **DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL.** Keep us informed.

We will continue with all of our measures in school which include:

- High levels of hygiene and cleaning.
- Regular handwashing and/or sanitising
- Ensuring that children do not mix with those from other bubbles
- Keeping rooms well ventilated.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns.

Reports to parents

If your child is in Reception to Year 6, you will be receiving a short report next Friday about the progress of your child/children. You will also be asked to complete an online form via google forms. Our Nursery staff will be writing to parents next half term once they have fully settled in.

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Access to online learning

Thank you to all parents that have accessed and completed the online google forms. We really need to know how easily you can access online learning so we can support families should families have to isolate or if we go into a circuit breaker/lockdown situation.

Dear Teacher homework - Nursery to Year 6

All the staff at Bedfont Primary School have done an amazing job this term. Teaching is an incredibly rewarding job and involves many hours preparing and marking and this is on top of the actual delivery of lessons. However, we are now living a Covid existence where staff are trying to keep our children safe by washing hands throughout the school day, remaining in bubbles and cleaning constantly. This has made the days even longer but the staff commitment has been unwavering and I am incredibly proud of them.

I hope you will all support me by asking your child to write a letter of thanks to their teacher and teaching assistant. I would really appreciate it if you could complete this task over the next few days and hand them to me or Mrs Swasbrook at the school gate.

Post-box competition

We have only one week left in our post box competition.

Create your own black post-box to honour a famous Black British person who inspires you. You could make the post-box out of a cardboard box or design it on paper.

On your post box you should include:

The name of the person who inspires you

Information about their life and achievements

The reasons why they are an inspiration to you.

Please bring your post-boxes into school by Friday 23rd October

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Virtual Coffee Morning

A big thank you to all the parents that attended our virtual coffee morning with Mrs Colenso. We will be repeating this event so please make the most of this opportunity.

Tabitha Colenso is the Advisory Teacher for Behaviour for the school, with over a decade of experience supporting schools, children and families around social, emotional, behavioural well being. She is also a trained, practising Cognitive Behaviour Therapist for children and

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adolescents supporting around anxiety and low mood. If you have other questions or topics you would like to focus on with Tabitha, potentially on future parents coffee mornings, please let us know email the school office: office@bedfont.hounslow.sch.uk

Secondary admissions

It is that time of year where secondary applications need to be completed. It is vital that forms are received before the end of October. Advice and guidance is available from www.hounslow.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions and page 5 of our 'Secondary School Transfer' brochure. I will include regular reminders over the next few weeks. If you need assistance with making your application please speak with staff and we will be happy to help you.

Wearing masks each day

Please try to remember your mask each day.

Please respect the fact that some people are unable to wear face masks.

Annual Flu Vaccination

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against the flu and this year is being offered to all children in primary school as well as those in school year 7. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. With COVID-19 in circulation it is more important than ever to reduce the number of those becoming ill with flu this winter to help protect them and the NHS.

The vaccination is free and is a quick and simple spray up the nose. Even if your child had it last year, the type of flu can vary each winter so it is recommended to have the flu vaccine again this year or they won't be protected.

A Message from the Leader of Hounslow Council, Cllr Steve Curran

The Government announced today that London will move from the current Tier 1 lockdown restrictions into Tier 2 from midnight tomorrow (Friday 16 October). This puts us in the 'High' risk category.

The most significant change is that it will be illegal to mix with other households indoors, apart from people in your support bubble. The main additional rules are:

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- No household mixing indoors
- No household mixing in pubs, restaurants and other hospitality venues
- Rule of six will apply outdoors
- Pubs and restaurants to shut at 10pm

Moving to Tier 2 is the right decision. The spread is happening primarily through households - this needs to stop now or we risk seeing more cases and more deaths in Hounslow.

This should serve as a wake-up call, for any who still need it. We are firmly in the second wave of COVID-19. Cases are rising exponentially, hospitals are seeing increasing numbers of people attending with COVID, more people are becoming acutely ill and this means that more people will die.

We all need to act responsibly, think of others and play our part to avoid moving to Tier 3, where restrictions are even more severe and will include closing businesses.

Protecting vulnerable residents remains our number one priority. The Council, alongside our partners, voluntary organisations and community groups, will be making sure those who need help get it.

As well as following the Tier 2 lockdown rules, it's also important we all keep doing the basics - wear a face covering, wash your hands regularly and keep a 2m distance from others.

We've got a challenging and tough winter ahead. We need Hounslow residents to pull together as one community and help keep each other safe.

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Covid-19 related staff/pupil absence

This was included in last week's newsletter but I will include it this week too.

What to do if...	Action needed	Return to school when...
<p>My child has Covid-19 symptoms:</p> <p>HIGH TEMPERATURE – this means they feel hot to touch on chest or back</p> <p>A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24hrs</p> <p>A LOSS OR CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE – this means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything.</p>	<p>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</p> <p>Contact school to inform us.</p> <p>Self-isolate the WHOLE household while getting the symptomatic person tested. Get a test.</p> <p>INFORM SCHOOL OF THE TEST RESULT</p>	<p>The test comes back negative and if the fever is gone.</p> <p>Children can return with a cough after a negative test as this can last for some time.</p>
<p>My child tests positive for Covid- 19</p>	<p>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</p> <p>Contact school to inform us. Patient must isolate for 10 days</p> <p>Quarantine the household for 14 days</p>	<p>Can return with a cough after minimum of 10 days as this symptom can last for several weeks.</p>

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My child tests negative	CONTACT THE SCHOOL Discuss when your child can come back to school (same day/next day).	The test comes back negative.
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19	Follow school absence procedures	For sickness/diarrhoea MUST be clear for 48 hours before returning to school.
Someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school. Self-isolate the whole household until person with symptoms tests negative.	When person with symptom gets a negative test.
Someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school. Pupil isolates at home for 14 days.	The child has completed 14 days isolation at home, and are not displaying any symptoms themselves.
NHS test & trace has identified my child has been in close contact of someone with a confirmed case of Covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school. Pupil isolates at home for 14 days.	The child has completed 14 days isolation at home.

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<p>We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<p>Please do not travel if quarantine requirements will mean a child missing school as an unauthorised absence.</p> <p>Pupil isolates for 14 days from return date.</p>	<p>The quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.</p>
<p>We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding</p>	<p>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</p> <p>Contact school.</p> <p>Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again. Liaise with school re. home learning.</p>	<p>You are informed that shielding advice has been lifted and your child can return to school</p>
<p>My child's bubble is closed due to a confirmed case of Covid-19 in school.</p>	<p>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</p> <p>Support your child at home with remote learning for 14 days.</p> <p>Siblings can come to school if their bubbles remains open. Family members do not need to isolate.</p>	<p>School will inform you when the bubble will be reopened.</p>

Please have a happy and safe weekend.

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