

Berrycoombe Primary School

Newsletter



September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back. It is lovely to see all the children back at school. The school is operating differently than usual. If you want details of what we are doing to ensure our school community remains safe at this time, please look on the home page of the School Website. There is a letter detailing the changes we have made.

I want to say thank you to parents and carers. You have been incredibly supportive of the changes we have introduced. It is appreciated.

The children have been fantastic. They arrived on the first day clearly anxious and nervous but day by day they have settled and calmed, and it is lovely to see smiles and giggles and a sense of fun returning to each class.

Arriving early to school

Many conscientious parents and children are arriving early before their start time. **Please do not do this.** We do not want parents or children grouping together waiting for classes to open. This is not safe. There is a 10-minute arrival window from when your class opens. If your class opens at 9 o'clock in the morning, you can arrive any time from 9:00 am to 9:10 am.

Reminder of our Staggered start and finish times

Year Group	Entry/Exit Point	Start Time	Finish Time
Reception	Main Gate	8:45	2:30
Y R/1	Main Gate	8:45	2:30
Y 1/2	Main Gate	9:00	2:45
Y 2	Main Gate	9:10	2:55
Y 3	Bottom Gate	8:45	2:30
Y 4	Main Gate	9:10	2:55
Y 5	Bottom Gate	8:55	2:40
Y 6	Bottom Gate	9:05	2:50

A Sad Farewell

I wanted to say good-bye to our 3 apprentices who have all qualified. We wish them well with their future careers.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say farewell to Teresa Charnley who has left the school after 23 years. We wish her every success with her new career. She has been an inspiration to countless children at our school over the years and she will be missed.

ParentPay

Thank you to all of those who have activated their accounts, if you have yet to do so please can you do it soon. Any problems please speak with the Secretary who will help you.

Uniform – We are currently waiting a delivery of more uniform which is scheduled for 16th September 2020

Vacancies

We have two temporary vacancies in the school at this time. If you are interested in working in the school, please give us a call– one position is from 11:45 to 1:15 three days a week and the other is from 2:40 to 3:10 five days a week. These vacancies can be combined.

We will also have a lunchtime TA available for one day a week from October

There is also a position for a Governor if you are interested in this please contact Kath in the office – There are four after school Governor meetings and between 3 and 4 Committee meetings a year. Please give us a call if you think you would like to get involved with the development of the school.

Term Dates 2020

Monday 21 st September	School Photos
26th- 30th October	Half Term
Thursday 5 th November	Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 10 th December	INSET Day
Friday 18 th December	Last day of term
Monday 4 th January 2021	Back to School

Frequently Asked Questions

What do I do if my child displays symptoms?

In line with government guidance if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus, they will need to stay at home and self-isolate until they can be tested. If your child develops symptoms in school, you will be contacted immediately to collect them.

If your child develops symptoms at home, please keep them at home and call the school to let us know.

What if someone in my family is isolating because they have tested positive with the virus? Is my child expected to stay at home too?

Yes – in line with the Public Health England advice, your child will need to stay at home.

What do I do if my child tests negative?

Please let the school know and as long as your child is feeling well in themselves they can return to school.

What do I do if my child tests positive?

Please call to let us know as soon as possible. You, your child and your wider household will then need to self-isolate for 14 days. Your child will not be able to return to school for 10 days.

What if someone in my family is isolating because they are aware they may have been exposed to the virus? Is my child expected to stay at home too?

No – in line with the Public Health England advice, your child will only need to stay at home if a member of your household develops symptoms.

What if someone in my family is isolating because they have tested positive with to the virus? Is my child expected to stay at home too?

Yes – in line with the Public Health England advice, your child will need to stay at home if a member of your household develops symptoms.

Does my child need to take a test in order to come back to school?

Yes - any child displaying symptoms should be tested for the virus.

Will the school tell me if another child in the class is displaying symptoms?

No - The symptoms of coronavirus are like many other common conditions (particularly in the autumn and winter months). In line with government guidance we will only inform parents if there is a confirmed case within the school. Any child showing symptoms will be sent home immediately and cannot return to school until they have had a test.

Will the school tell me if another child in the class tests positive?

Yes, if a case is confirmed in your child's class, we will write to let you know. All children and staff in that class will be required to stay at home for 14 days. If they don't develop any symptoms during that time, they can then return to school. During that 14 day period the classroom and immediate surrounding area will be deep cleaned ready for the children to return. We will also organise home learning.

Will the school tell me if another child in the school tests positive?

Yes – we will inform parents of all children attending school if there is a positive case. Although there will be no need for anyone outside of the affected class to stay at home.