

Beech Green Primary School

"Believe Grow Persevere Succeed"

Newsletter for Thursday 5th November 2020

Welcome back to Term 2



Dear Beech Green Families,

To re-iterate the ParentMail which was sent out last evening; please help us by following guideline advice, to all stay safe and keep our school open. We need you to please observe the measures we are told to follow...

As we adjust to the new national restrictions being enforced from today, I thought it would be useful for you to know what changes we have made at school and what you can do to help. We are relieved that our school will remain open. Your children have been pleased to be back (most of the time) they clearly enjoy playing and learning with their friends.

Throughout, we have tried our best to keep everyone safe whilst maintaining as positive an experience as possible. Today, there is a tightening up of what we first put in place in June.

Masks and Face Shields

There are a number of vulnerable staff that are concerned for their own safety or their families, these adults are likely to wear a clear face shield in class or on gate duty (it is difficult for some people to maintain a distance whilst having a conversation outside.) The guidance remains clear that masks do not need to be worn outside, therefore we are not asking parents to wear any face coverings. If you are concerned for yourself, you are always welcome to wear a shield or mask. If this is not enough please talk to a member of staff about arriving and leaving at a different time when there are less people.

Children can wear a mask in class if it makes them feel safer, please tell your class teacher who will send you the parent/carer and pupil agreement to read and sign.

The One Way System for Parents and Carers

This makes all the difference to us being able to stay open, thank you for complying with these expectations, just a few reminders, **please expect staff on the gate to remind you**, please also remember that we are doing our best to comply with what we have been asked to do, it is not our fault, we have to follow the guidance, verbal abuse to staff cannot be tolerated.

- One adult per child/family, all children must stay near the adult.
- Please maintain social distance in the queue and when you enter school, even if you are with a family friend.
- Keep moving - please do not try to talk to staff at the door, we know this is really difficult, you can talk to anyone on the gate, we will pass on messages, or email the office, class teacher directly or phone.
- Please make use of the full 20 to 30 minute window, children do not start formal lessons until 9:10am and they keep working.
- Older siblings will need to wait away from the school grounds please.
- We can no longer permit parents to meet each other in a group outside the gates.

- Please talk to someone if you need to bring a bike or a scooter into school - you may be asked at the gate.
- Pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 who are not collected will be reminded to walk and keep their distance from others.

Windows, Doors and Being Outside

All classrooms and corridors will be kept ventilated, this means your child may like to wear an extra layer of clothes, please do not worry if this is not exactly school uniform.

Even in cold, wet weather we will need to take the children outside, you have been so supportive of our OPAL play and Daily Mile, please try to ensure your child has a coat and outdoor shoes, we have begun to build up a bank of spare outdoor clothes, please donate any old coats, wellies or waterproof trousers that your child no longer needs. This needs to be given to the teacher with a clear label, 'donated outdoor clothes for Mrs Hart'.

Home Learning and Support

We have been bombarding you with information about this, we know it will take you time to understand it, please ask if you need help. We are proud to be able to support all our families by loaning school computer equipment for children to access the work, providing food and additional help where needed. Please just ask, we are always here for you.

COVID Test Results

A huge thank you for your co-operation with this, all the families we have spoken to have understood our position and willingly returned an email with the result. Please continue to use covid19@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk email address and phone the school if you or your child develops symptoms at home.

Well done to you and your delightful children; it is a joy to be back to 'normal'. We are determined to make this work for the benefit of our pupils. We appreciate every single act of support you show, from not meeting your friend outside to donating an old coat. It means a lot. With best wishes to you and your families.



Mrs Julie Poulson - Headteacher

@beech_green

NEW School Co-Opted Governor

We are delighted to inform you that last evening, the school governing body unanimously voted to elect Mrs Andrea Webb to fill one of our Co-Opted Governor vacancies. Andrea joins the governors with a wealth of knowledge about Beech Green; some of you may remember she worked here for many years as Cleaner in Charge. Andrea recently left Beech Green, but now feels she has the time and would like to take part in the governance of our school. We welcome Andrea on board.

Kittle Photos

We have now received a box of photos and will send them home to you as soon as we get a moment to sort them out. Please bear with us.

Uniform

If you pre-ordered a school fleece and have received notification from us that it's arrived, then please phone us to arrange collection and payment. Thank you.

Home Learning Platform

Thank you to those of you who have already managed to access the Home Learning Platform. If you haven't already logged in, please do so at <https://teams.microsoft.com> before this Friday and reply to the message from the class teacher - it is **vital** that all families check that they are able to log in, as this will be the way we send work to you in the case of having to close a year group bubble or if your family has to isolate. Your child will have brought a letter home with their user name or password before half term; they also now have the details stuck in their reading records. If you have any problems, please email:

Reception and Key Stage 1: aimeemcevoy@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk

Key Stage 2: hayleyearl@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk

Most families were able to complete the survey last term about accessing the internet and the devices you have at home. However, if you were **not** able to complete the survey and do not have access to a laptop or tablet at home (and so would struggle to complete the home learning), please contact us on the above email addresses. Thank you.

British Legion Poppy Appeal



Next Wednesday is Remembrance Day, 11th November, and so you will see around some poppies to remind us of this annual event.

On Friday, we will give all the children a traditional poppy, given to us from the Royal British Legion. We understand, that whilst churches have to close during this new lockdown, some memorials may take place outdoors, so at least you might like to wear your poppy this Sunday at home. Unfortunately, we cannot participate with the children at any events this year.

Our versatile shopping trolley is out in the car park. At the start and end of the school day, please throw your loose change into the red bucket. Donations will be collected from school next Thursday. The trolley is just for collecting your donations; no poppies in there to take. To confirm these will be given out in class on Friday. Thank you for your anticipated support.

Internet Safety - TikTok

We are aware that many of our pupils, particularly in the upper juniors, are increasingly engaging with social media, especially TikTok which has grown hugely in popularity during lockdown. The official age for having an account for this is actually 13, with 15 being recommended.

We realise a lot of parents may not be using this themselves and therefore won't be entirely sure what it's all about, and so just wanted to draw your attention to the BBC Panorama programme 'Is TikTok safe?' which was televised earlier this week, and is currently available on

iPlayer: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b006t14n/panorama>

Collecting Selection Boxes for Gloucester Foodbank

A former pupil is trying to achieve her Duke of Edinburgh award in these difficult times and has found it hard to get a volunteering placement due to Covid. However, she has come up with an idea and got in touch with us.

🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲 Reaching out to all our friends..... As part of her volunteering for her D of E award, she would like to help the Gloucester Food Bank at Christmas by collecting SELECTION BOXES and donating them to the families that really need help at Christmas. If you are able to drop a selection box, or a Christmas chocolate treat, into our shopping trolley in the car park, we will pass any donations over. Any donations welcome, however, big or small. 🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲🌲 🍷❤️ Thank you.

Finally, Today is the 5th November

If you are having any fireworks or bonfires this evening, then please do take care and follow the firework code, as we really do want everyone to stay safe.



admin@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk

Website – www.beechgreenprimary.co.uk