

Beech Green Primary School

"Believe Grow Persevere Succeed"

Newsletter for Thursday 28th January 2021

School to Home – Week 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a meeting in the car park on Wednesday, I don't think I've ever held one of those before! Staff stood in a large socially distanced circle to find out about the Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Covid tests. Twice a week we will test ourselves and report the results; a confirmed, positive outcome will close a year group bubble. LFD tests will be completed every Thursday and Sunday, more information below.

How is home learning going for you? If it is a total disaster, hideous battleground or model of educational excellence please tell us (politely) by using the survey (the link to the survey is in the 'Home Learning survey' article, on the next page, under the photos.) We can't promise to solve all your problems, but we can promise to try.

Your photos have been such a delight, thank you for sending them. Anger is the next assembly theme, feel free to send photos or ideas linked to that topic, or anything else you'd like to share head@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk

Miss McEvoy starts her maternity leave on Friday 12th February, she has been a hugely helpful home learning support, expertly responding to our queries at all hours of the day and night. Hopefully she'll have a least a week of peace before her new baby arrives. Everyone at Beech Green sends our love and best wishes to the whole family. Mrs Philippa Hicks will step in to work with Year 4 and Year 5 which means that Miss Westcott can stay full time in Reception until July. Mrs Hicks is very excitedly researching the KS2 curriculum and really looking forward to catching up with pupils she last taught four or five years ago.

Half term is from Monday 15th to Friday 19th February this will be a break for everyone. Children, staff, key workers, home learners, parents and carers do not need to do any school work. Key worker childcare starts again on Monday 22nd February, when we will hopefully find out more about a potential full return.

Very best wishes to you and your family.

Mrs Julie Poulson - Headteacher

@beech_green



Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Testing for Staff in School

You will have most likely seen on the news, that The Government is suggesting that, starting this week, all primary staff attending schools in England should be tested for COVID-19, via Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing. This is for all staff, not just teachers and it whilst not compulsory, we are keen to do all we can to help keep all our families and staff as safe as possible. Beech Green staff will be starting LFD testing today. The aim is to identify the people with Coronavirus (COVID-19) who have mild, or even no symptoms, but who can still spread the virus unwittingly. In the event any of our staff should show a positive COVID-19 test result, then it could become necessary for us to shut their bubble the evening before. We are asked to test twice a week and 3 to 4 days apart, so at Beech Green we are going to test ourselves on Sundays and Thursdays. We are letting you know now as potentially this could result in more bubbles being closed than has luckily so far been necessary. Please keep an eye on ParentMail, as this is how we would notify you of any bubble having to close.

Cheerful Photo of the Week Corner!

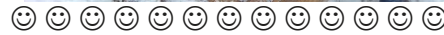
During this difficult time, we just love seeing our pupils enjoying a bit of fun.

Thanks for sending in these delightful snaps.

Right: Y6 boy showing his happy photo with his new puppy. The new best friend is making lockdown more cheerful and gets everyone out for walks and some fresh air every day, in all weathers. 😊

Left: Y4 boy's happy place - out in dog walks stomping through icy puddles. 😊

Below: Y3 & Y6 brothers out snow crafting. 😊 😊



Right: This family was missing the school discos, so decided to put on their party clothes and have their own. Great idea.

Left: Y3 out walking her Boxer dog Dyson



Happy Entries to admin@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk

Home learning survey

We realise that a lot is being asked of families by the government at the moment, having to manage working from home, learning at home and just generally getting by in these difficult times. Now that we are a few weeks into the lockdown, and children are accessing the learning at home, we'd really appreciate it if you could spare us a few minutes to complete [this survey](#) to let us know what is and isn't working for you. Staff are all working incredibly hard to prepare lessons and resources as well as delivering face-to-face lessons, but we need to know that what we are doing is right. But please remember, as we have repeatedly said, we appreciate that you are doing your best, and are doing what works for you and your family. Whilst we cannot guarantee that we can deliver learning that works perfectly for every child and their family, we will do our best to support you all. Many thanks, Hayley Earl and Aimee McEvoy

February Half-Term

Schools will close as usual over February half-term, 15th to 19th February 2021, and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week. We have already sent a ParentMail to those families, but we just want to make sure everyone realises we will be closed for the week.

This also means that no Home-Learning will be set or expected to be done during the school holiday.

Contact Tracing over the February half-term

Schools continue to play an important role in contact tracing for those pupils and staff who continue to attend school during term time. Where pupils or staff attending Beech Green test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) during the holidays, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, schools are not required to take any action. Staff, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

However, where pupils or staff still attending school test positive having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. Therefore, if any pupils or staff develop symptoms up until Monday 15th February and subsequently get a positive test, please let us know via covid19@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk so that we could ParentMail and advise the appropriate bubble to self-isolate for ten days.

After Half-Term

At the moment, we know as much as you do about when schools will be able to resume as normal. The Government has advised everyone that we would get two weeks notice. If Lockdown 3 is still with us on Monday 22nd February, then we would revert to Home-Learning via Teams and just be open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers, as we are now. If anything changes, we would of course let you know by ParentMail.

admin@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk

covid19@beechgreen.gloucs.sch.uk

Beech Green Careline – 24-hour answerphone – 01452 722697

Website – www.beechgreenprimary.co.uk