



Bridstow CE Primary School Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2020

Diary Dates

October

- **Tuesday 20th**
Whole School
Individual Photos
- **Mon 26th to Fri 30th**
HALF TERM

November

- **Monday 2nd**
All children back for
2nd half of Autumn
term
- **Monday 23rd**
Nasal Flu spray
vaccinations –
whole school

Our Value for
September is:
Honesty

The 'New Normal'

A very warm welcome back to all our children and families. After such a long time without all of our children together, it has been very heart-warming to see the school full of children and hear the chatter and laughter again. The children have settled well and are working hard. Long may it continue.

As you are aware, we are still working under certain restrictions but we are operating well within our bubbles to ensure that children and staff are as safe as they can be. Cleaning levels have been stepped up.

We would like to extend our thanks to all parents and carers whilst we all get to grips with the new procedures.

A big Bridstow welcome to all our new reception children. Whilst it is sad that they cannot mix with the rest of the school, Mrs Wallin and Mr Thorne assure us that they are all settling in very well, having fun and learning.

With the onset of Autumn, it is inevitable that the children will get colds and sniffles. This is completely normal. Children with normal cold symptoms can attend school. If you feel your child is not well enough to come to school, keep them home as usual then send them back as soon as they are well enough. The normal practice of 48 hours for sickness and diarrhoea still applies.

The Department for Education guidance sets out three symptoms only that require children (and therefore families) to isolate and test for Covid19. These are:

- Persistent cough
- Temperature about 37.8°C
- Loss of taste and or smell

If you are unsure about whether your child should be off school, isolating and tested, please ring the school office. Please also see the letter from NHS.

Once again, thank you to everyone for your patience and cooperation.

Staggered Start & Finish **NEW TIMINGS**

Now that we are all used to things, we have decided to update our morning start and finish times so that daily lessons can start more promptly and finish a little later each day. This will enable teachers to make the best use of the school day to teach your children. Below is a table outlining the changes that will start from **MONDAY 28th SEPTEMBER**

Morning drop-off slots (at main office entrance - using one-way system)

- 8.45am to 8.50am – Families with surname starting with A-D
- 8.50am to 8.55am – Families with surname starting with E-P
- 8.55am to 9am – Families with surname starting with Q-Z

Afternoon collection slots (outside classrooms - using one-way system)

- 3pm to 3.05pm – Families with surname starting with A-D
- 3.05pm to 3.10pm – Families with surname starting with E-P
- 3.10pm to 3.15pm – Families with surname starting with Q-Z

As is already the case, if you have arranged for the earlier drop off or later collection time to suit your work, this will continue to stand. With this new organisation, it will really help if

families stick to these times as closely as possible to avoid unnecessary queuing and waiting around each day.

Social Distancing: drop-off and pick-up times

Please ensure that two-metre social distancing is adhered to at all times when queuing in the morning or afternoon, when leaving the school and when walking around the building.

We are happy for parents to wear masks should they wish, but as everything is kept outside, there is no requirement to do so.

Please can we also remind parents and carers to use the one-way system in the morning (walk in via the path that surrounds the car park – not across the car park). This will avoid children potentially getting in the way of cars parking and moving in the mornings.

Keeping in touch and contacting the school

If you are not following the school on Facebook page yet, this would be a good idea as it is how you will find out about what we have been up to. Please ensure that all comments are positive and constructive and remember, if you have an issue, please contact the class teacher directly via email or give them a ring.

Should you need to communicate with the school, please use the following:

- Telephone: 01989 562623 – you can report absence at any time – using the messaging system and the phones are generally covered from 9am to 4pm each day
- Email – Please email the school office on admin@bridstow.hereford.sch.uk

Self-isolating families and technology

We have had a number of families that have needed to self-isolate due to waiting for a Coronavirus test result to return. This has taken many days in some cases!

We want to avoid any child/ren getting left behind in these circumstances. To this end, we will expect children in families that are isolating to take part in daily learning activities. Your child's class teacher will make it clear what is to be expected if your family should be unavoidably isolated. If in doubt, please contact the school and we will help.

We will also be sending out a short survey to all parents and carers. This will be used to gauge home access to devices and the internet and to help us target those children that may need a device or more in the case of lock-down or self-isolation. Please take a few moments to complete this survey when you receive it. We will send it out via text, email and on the Facebook page.
