



Bellfield Infant School News

8th January 2021

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Our Story Telling and PE
'ZOOM'
sessions start next week!

Dear Parents & Carers

*Happiness and wonder
inspires success*

Happy New Year to everyone and we're really hoping for a better one this year!

As some of you know, on the last day of term a member of staff tested positive for Covid 19; we informed relevant parents and staff but unfortunately a further five members of staff also tested positive over the Christmas period. As we found out about positive cases we informed parents and staff. Unfortunately, five pupils across Year 1 and 2 also tested positive too but on a positive note that was five out of a potential 120 children.

Obviously for those individuals who tested positive, they did not have the restful and nice Christmas that we would have wanted for them and some are still suffering from the after affects. This situation contributed to us making the difficult decision on Monday not to open fully to all children on Tuesday. We made the right decision because the government later announced on Monday evening that schools are to remain closed. To overcome this pandemic we must reduce the amount of movement and therefore most children should remain at home. We have looked very closely at our most recent Risk Assessment to make adjustments to ensure we have done everything in our power to keep everyone safe. Staff have separate staff rooms for each year group; the children who are in school only mix with the children in their year group, all staff wear face masks or visors; we have reminded children of the importance of washing their hands regularly. We have asked that if any children show any signs of feeling unwell please can they remain at home and be tested.

The numbers of children in school does vary from day to day but on the whole they are low. We have decided to return to our original school times:

Morning Start:- 8:50 am
Afternoon Finish:- 3:15 pm

Staff have worked really hard to ensure that learning can continue for those children at home. They have prepared virtual learning and also packs for those who have difficulty accessing the virtual learning. The packs contain a week of activities and learning that the children in school are also completing. We are also trying to arrange virtual face to face contact so the children at home can see their teachers. If you are struggling, please contact the school and we will do our utmost to help. You can ring us or email to your child's year group email. In addition, staff have been phoning parents to see how they and their children are and whether they are able to access the home learning packs. Staff have said it was really nice to chat to parents and how supportive of the school and what we are trying to do for their children.

We have received some lovely feedback regarding the Home Learning packs that are available on our website or to collect from school. We have also had some fantastic work emailed to us from the children who are working from home. Please continue to send work in as the staff look forward to seeing it!

Thank you and keep up the good work!

The school is open to Key workers' children, children with an EHCP and any children who are identified as vulnerable. The government has said that children with no access to virtual learning are classed as vulnerable because the disruption to their education is impacting more on them. If you think your child should be in school due to one of the above, please contact school immediately.

The weather has been very cold and we keep hearing about the 'Beast from The East' visiting us again this year. The very icy start on Thursday was treacherous and unfortunately Mr Miley hit some black ice and had a very narrow escape although his car was not as lucky. He was fine but suffered some bruising and back pain - we wish him a speedy recovery. Please everyone take care.

During the Christmas break there was some lovely news amongst all the doom and gloom; Mrs Hodnette gave birth to a baby daughter whom she has called Cleo. Congratulations to her and her husband!