



*Celebrating learning together in faith, hope and love*

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents,

### **Re-opening of School from 8<sup>th</sup> March**

We are looking forward to having the school building full again next with the noise of the children back in their classrooms and on the playground.

We will continue to have all our Covid-measures in place as we did in the Autumn Term and will look to you to help us with implementing them and by being supportive of the whole BP school community. We should not view the re-opening of schools as a signal to be complacent and lower our guard, so your support will be crucial over the remaining weeks of this term. Please see below some key points about our re-opening and as always, if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

### **Priorities for the Children's Return**

We were so impressed and proud of how the children returned to school back in September and we hope it will be just as positive for them all again this time round. We know that they are keen to be back with their friends and teachers. The following areas will be our priorities over the coming weeks as we welcome the children back:

- Opportunities to talk about their experiences at home, share successes and re-establish school routines, expectations and behaviour.
- Opportunities for the children to be exposed to and do lots of reading.
- Along with their weekly timetabled PE lesson, factor in additional fitness activities such as the Daily Mile and/or Joe Wickes-style cardio sessions.
- Use opportunities in class to assess the children so we can look to address gaps in knowledge and understanding.

### **Dropping Off and Pick Up Arrangements**

- The timings for drop-off and pick-up will be exactly the same as last term, including the earlier pick up on Fridays.

Class	Start time	Drop off at...	Finish time (Mon – Thurs)	Friday finish time	Pick up from...
Year R	08.30	Reception class gate	15.00	13.00	Reception Gate
Year 1	08.40	Middle Gate	15.15	13.10	Main Playground
Year 2	08.45	Middle Gate	15.20	13.20	
Year 3	08.30	Main Gate	15.05	13.05	
Year 4	08.35	Main Gate	15.10	13.10	
Year 5	08.45	Main Gate	15.20	13.20	
Year 6	08.40	Main Gate	15.15	13.15	

- Please maintain social distancing outside the school and when on site.
- Only one parent should be dropping off/picking up to avoid congestion.
- Face coverings to be worn whilst on site and we politely request that they are also worn if parents are waiting outside the school grounds at drop off time.
- Please be mindful of not blocking the pavement for other pedestrians-especially Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents whilst waiting at drop-off time. Please wait on the other side of the road when possible.
- Children using scooters and bicycles should dismount when they get close to the school and the pavement is congested, especially those coming from the direction of Montrose Avenue and the railway bridge.

- When collecting children from the playground, please do not stop in the line as it moves along. Please save hugs and swapping of bags until you are outside the school grounds to allow the line to flow smoothly and for everyone to be able to exit the school quickly and efficiently.

#### School Uniform

- We would like the children to wear their normal school uniform on their return, including school shoes (suitable non-school shoes can be worn if your child's school shoes do not fit but once shops re-open children will be expected to wear school shoes). Children can wear BP polo shirts (which are normally part of the summer uniform) instead of shirts if this is easier as of next week.
- BP book bags (Infants) and BP backpacks (Juniors) are to be used. Please do not use bags/rucksacks that are not part of the School Uniform Policy.

#### School Equipment and Stationery

In order to limit the sharing of resources, it is helpful if the children can bring in their own stationery. We will provide stationery resources for Year R and 1, but it would be helpful if children in Years 2 – 6 could bring in the following items in a small, reasonably-sized pencil case, that they can keep in class so they can use them every day:

- 3 x writing pencils
- 1 x pencil eraser
- 1 x small pencil sharpener (no battery-operated or winding mechanisms please)
- 1 x ruler (30cm)
- 2 x whiteboard pens
- 1 x glue stick
- 1 x fountain pen + ink cartridges
- Optional (but very helpful):
- 6 – 12 x coloured pencils
- 6 – 12 coloured felt tips
- 1 x pair of scissors

Pencil cases will stay in school and will not be taken home every evening, so please don't send in treasured stationery items. We will provide stationery items for children who are unable to bring their own.

#### Ventilation in Classrooms

- We will maintain good levels of ventilation in classrooms and the school building. Children are still welcome to wear additional clothing (under layers and fleeces) in class if they want to. Hopefully the temperature will be rising as we enter the Spring and it will become less of an issue.

#### PE and Fitness

- Children in Years 1-6 to come into school in their PE kits on the day of their timetabled PE lesson. PE lessons will be held outside as much as possible so the children are welcome to wear dark coloured under layers if they want. Children in Years 1 and 2 are welcome to wear dark coloured track suit tops and bottoms if they don't have Bishop Perrin PE kit.
- All children in Reception should have their PE kit in school (it will be kept on their peg) – black shorts, white T-shirt and plimsolls. Assessment of how children manage changing their clothes independently is part of the 'Health and Self-Care' aspect of the Physical Development Early Learning Goal. It is advisable to also include a pair of plain, dark tracksuit bottoms in their PE kit as some of their lessons will take place outside. Please also include spare underwear and socks / tights in the PE kit bag. We do not have surplus spares at schools in the event of accidents.

### Lunchtime

The children will continue to have 30 minutes in the Hall to eat their lunch and 30 minutes on the playground (if dry) on Mondays-Thursdays. On Fridays they will have 30 minutes in their classrooms to eat their lunch. Please note the following:

- For children having a packed lunch, please remember that we are a nut-free school.
- For children having a hot lunch, please make sure they are happy with the food on offer on any given day. There are some children who tell staff that they do not like any of the food on offer for their hot lunch which leads to upset and wasted food.
- For children having hot lunches, please remind your child about the correct grip and use of a knife and fork and table manners.

### The Library and Library Books

Mrs Bowe, our Librarian, has been busy working to get the Library ready for the children. We are hopeful that we will be able to make use of this great resource after Easter, with the children making weekly visits.

When the children return to school we ask that they bring any copies of school library books with them and return them to the library. We have a number of books that have been out on loan for a long time, with 150+ books outstanding from our first lockdown in March of last year. This is at a considerable cost to the school as a number of these books were brand new. Please could we ask that you have a good look at home this weekend, and check the books on the book shelf and return any books that belong to Bishop Perrin School. Library books will have a bar code sticker on the inside cover / pages. Thank you.

### Borrowed School Laptops and Devices

Please arrange to return any school-owned laptops and devices to the Office as soon as you are able to. They can be returned over the course of next week to save everyone trying to drop them off all at once on Monday 8<sup>th</sup>. If there is a need to borrow a device again in the future, please let us know.

### Finally

We will of course keep you updated on any changes or developments to the timetable and arrangements in school as soon as we are able to. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or queries about the children coming back next week.

Thank you again for all your dedicated help and support for the children during this period of closure to the majority of the children. We are also very grateful for all the lovely messages and encouragement we have received from you over the course of this term-it is highly valued.

I look forward to seeing you over the coming weeks.

Best wishes,

Mr Corke