

24th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all managing to stay safe, taking care of each other and remaining positive.

Keeping in Touch

A big thank you to those of you that have engaged in our phone calls.

As I said last week getting a phone call from school should not alarm you. We just want to touch base with all of our families, as we know that this whole situation is proving very stressful for adults and children.

Please remember we are here to support you in whatever way we can, so please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

#Thankourchildren

Some of you may have seen in the Media that several public sectors and the Lord-Lieutenant of Nottingham have created a certificate for schools to use. They would like the certificate to be sent to children that are not only doing what has been asked of them during this lockdown but are showing great resilience and determination with it too- still adhering to our mantra 'Work hard. Be Kind.'

Please email us to let us know if your child/ren deserves one and why. I will then get one out to them as quickly as possible.

Free School Meals Vouchers

Those of you entitled to benefits based Free School Meals will be receiving your vouchers either today or Monday. With the vouchers is a letter outlining which weeks they are for.

Home Learning

Term has officially started therefore each school day, via our website, the teachers will be putting on their class page some daily learning activities. The focus is on Maths, English and Topic. Don't forget the daily workout too.

Also on the class pages you will find links to other learning resources, such as electronic versions of our reading books.

I am aware that some of you are finding it difficult to access work electronically and we can send out paper-based work.

If you would like a paper-based pack please contact school by 3.00pm on Tuesday 28th April.

I would also like to reiterate that we understand it can be difficult juggling the current restrictions, family life, home-learning and working at home. All that we ask is that you ensure your child participates in some form of learning each day. I know some of you are taking this time as an opportunity to teach your child /ren new skills. I think that is fantastic.

Opening for Key Worker

Birklands continues to provide provision for our keyworkers. Provision is available between 8.15am and 3.45pm, each working day.

Please remember this provision is for the children of those workers classed as essential, who have no other childcare, other than a relative who is over 70 or is categorised as vulnerable. Current guidelines state that children should remain at home where possible.

All children will also need to bring a drink, snack and a packed lunch with them, as there are no catering staff on-site.

Well-being

Staying positive, calm and relaxed through this situation is important.

We are currently putting together a well-being letter for parent/carers and one for the children. If you have any tips or information that you think could be included in this well-being newsletter do let us know.

Mrs Smith's well-being tip: I know when I feel the need to re-balance myself I play one of my favourite songs, rather loudly, then sing and dance to it. Not a pretty sight but it does the trick. Maybe you can try it too.

If you do have any questions or queries about anything please do get in touch.

Remember following current guidelines, will mean this health crisis will be over sooner rather than later and we can return back to school and some form of normal life.

Stay safe and positive.



Mrs C. Smith (Head of School)