

# *Byerley Park Primary School Newsletter*

## *Issue 3*

*1<sup>st</sup> October 2020*

### *Important Changes for school re-opening on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020*

We look forward to welcoming everybody back to school on Monday. We were very sad that we had to close at such short notice and despite following all the Government Guidelines. In order to try to prevent another closure, we have decided to put additional precautionary measures in place that we know are not recommended by the Government but we feel, being at the sharp end of this virus, are necessary. Please read the below information and keep it safe for future reference.

#### **Temperature Checks**

It is our intention to take the children's temperatures as they enter school each morning. We will use an electronic thermometer which does not touch the child in any way. If you do not want your child's temperature taken, you must email us by Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **Visors/face coverings for staff**

Staff will be wearing Visors/face shields around school and in the classroom where practical.

#### **Visors/face coverings for children**

Government guidance and scientific evidence state that children under the age of 11 do not need to wear a face covering. However, we recognise that some parents may have some anxiety around this. For this reason, we will allow any child whose parent wishes them to do so, to wear a face covering within the classroom area. There are some important points to note if a covering is to be worn:

- Children should be used to wearing them for a prolonged period of time
- The face covering must not be touched once on the face
- The covering should be worn correctly i.e. over mouth and nose
- They should not be removed until leaving to go outside
- They must not be shared or handled by anyone else
- They need to fit properly to be effective
- If children cannot concentrate in lesson or are distracting others because of the mask, we will telephone parents to discuss this.

## **PE Kit**

At the beginning of this term, we asked that children bring their PE kits to school on a Monday morning and they would be returned home on the Friday for washing. Unfortunately, too many children are forgetting to return them and are therefore not able to engage in PE lessons. Because of this, we now ask that children leave their PE kit in school and it will be sent home at the end of each half term. We will still be going outside as much as possible to do our PE lessons and therefore the children will need leggings/track suit bottoms, a warm top and appropriate footwear. Thank you for your support in this.

## **Bicycles and Scooters**

At the beginning of the term, we asked that no child come to school on their bike/scooter. We now feel that we can allow children to ride/scoot to and from school should you so wish.

## **Home Learning Book**

Due to the fact that we had to take the decision to close over a weekend, children did not have the opportunity to be given books in which to do their work. We have ordered additional exercise books for the children which will come home and will remain at home in the event that we may need to close a bubble in the future. These books will be entitled 'Home Learning'.

## **Parents' Evening**

Due to the turbulent start that we have had, we have taken the decision to alter Parents' Evenings this term. At the end of November, you will receive a document giving information as to how well your child has settled and their attitude and behaviour in lessons. Areas commented on will be English, Maths and Science. There will also be general comments/observations made by the class teacher. We will ensure that you will have the opportunity to raise any concerns you may have.

## **Contacting School**

As you know, we do not allow parents or visitors into school at this time. If your child is late and the pedestrian gates are closed or indeed if your child forgets something and you need to bring it, please ring the Office from the school gates (near the car park) and a member of staff will walk out and take either your child or their forgotten item from you. Please do not walk through the car park into the school grounds.

We appreciate how difficult a time it has been recently. We do recognise and appreciate your support through the ever changing minefield that we are in. Please understand that we will continue to do all we can to protect our whole school community. To do this, we need your ongoing cooperation and commitment to following the Government and Local Guidelines. This may be a long winter, but together we will get through this.