



Bickley Primary School
Nightingale Lane, Bromley BR1 2SQ

All Different, All Equal, All Achieve



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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now nearing the end of week 3 of the autumn term and the children are doing a fantastic job of following the new 'Covid rules.' The children come into school in the morning beautifully – and swiftly - and it has helped a lot of children become more independent to walk in without their parents or the rest of the class by their side. They are all settled in their 'Victorian style' classrooms (Yr 2 – 6) with all the children facing the front and more teaching being delivered from the front of the class. As usual for this time of year, we have had a few colds, and children are being asked to keep a wad of tissues in their pockets in case they need to cough or sneeze, and then to put the tissue in the pedal bin in the classroom immediately. If your child has a normal cold, and does not have Covid symptoms, please send them in with plenty of tissues!

Face Masks or Shields

You may have noticed that staff on the gates at the beginning and end of the day are wearing face masks or shields. We are doing this as an extra precaution because of the increase in Covid cases nationally. Some schools are asking parents to wear face coverings at drop off and pick up times, but – our school has been picked up on spot checks by the Trust – Bickley parents are very well-behaved and sensible, and do not stand in close clusters talking to each other, so we have decided that this should be your choice for the time being!

New Reception Children

Our new Reception children are currently coming in for mornings and lunch times, and will do whole days from next week. They have made a good start and are beginning to get used to rules and routines. As the weather turns colder and wetter, it would be really helpful if all Reception children had a pair of wellies and a waterproof that they keep in school, so that they can still go outside. It would also be incredibly helpful if parents could teach their child to put their coats on themselves and do them up if possible.

Access to mobiles / tablets / laptops at home

With the threat of local lockdowns / self-isolation, etc, it is quite possible that your child will need to access and complete schoolwork at home at some point. It would be helpful if parents could let their class teacher know if their child would not have access to a smart phone, tablet or laptop at home, should they need to use one.

A plea from us and our neighbours

Please, please, please can parents not do U-turns in Nightingale Lane. As you are more than aware, the road has children from 3 schools walking along it, and a car yesterday reversed down the top of our drive as part of its manoeuvre, with lots of children close by.

Our second plea is on behalf of Petit Pembrokes. They have informed us that some of our parents are parking in their car park and have been quite rude to their staff when asked to move. Please can you refrain from parking in their car park.

Events in School

It was so sad that we could not have our summer fete this year, and it is unlikely that we will be able to have a Christmas Fayre. Other autumn term events like the Harvest Festival and Christmas carol concert in the church will sadly not be able to take place this year either, and we are trying to think about how we could still have Infant Nativities, as to cancel these would be terrible!



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The autumn term also usually has lots of meetings and tours of the school for prospective new parents. Unfortunately, we will have to rely on virtual tours this year, like our secondary colleagues. We are hoping that these will go online during October.

Reading Book Quarantines

Because we need to 'quarantine' books after use before different children read them, Yr 1, 2 and 3 teachers will send reading books home on a Friday and have asked that children return them on the following **Wednesday**.

Free School Meals

We know that, sadly, some parents have lost their jobs since the start of the pandemic. If you now think that your child might be eligible for Free School Meals, please contact our Family Liaison Officer, Miss Nabdoo, who can support you in making an application. If successful, your child would also attract Pupil Premium funding, which would be spent on additional support and / or funding free clubs or music tuition. This is applicable for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (who receive Free School Meals already) as well as for children in Yrs 3 – 6.

Small Reminders

Children can wear plain black trainers as school shoes, but we are noticing lots of big white ticks and other colours creeping in. We allow back trainers because they are practical and hard-wearing, and we know how expensive – and often easily damaged – some shoes can be. However, we still want the children to look smart, and we don't want their footwear to become competitive, in terms of who has the latest and most trendy trainers!

Please can the children's water bottles have sports caps. The children keep their water bottles on their tables at the moment, and there have been a few spillages from bottles with screw caps!

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support. This is a very challenging time for all of us, and your co-operation and support is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely



Miss Blake