



# Belmont Primary School Newsletter September 18th 2020



Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to the end of the third week back in school and it certainly seems that the days are passing by at some pace. You will note also that at the present time, to maintain communication, I am compiling newsletters on a weekly rather than fortnightly basis.

### Daily Operations

We continue to be happy with the way the school is operating at present. Everybody across the community appears to be familiar with the routines we have in place and we are grateful for all of the feedback we have received. As always, please try as best you can to ensure you are on the school site for as little time as is possible to reduce the chances of coming into direct contact with too many people. For children in Key Stage Two, especially Years Five and Six, it is perfectly acceptable for them to be dropped off at the gate. Of course, after school it is easier to meet them at the classrooms to prevent congregating outside the gates.

You may have noticed that some members of staff are choosing to wear protective visors at the door. This is because a number of parents are breaching the two metre distancing between themselves and members of staff when dropping their children off. Could I please ask once again that, if there is an urgent need to speak to your child's teacher, to make a telephone appointment. I am aware that this is a very different approach to our normal way of operating, but then these are also very different times. Many thanks.

### Packed Lunches and Snacks

It has been brought to my attention that some children are bringing in items in their packed lunch or as a snack which are not permitted within the school for health reasons.

Firstly, I would like to point out that we are not a school who actively 'investigate' what the children bring into school for their snack and their lunch, as a balanced diet does not necessarily mean the total exclusion of certain foods; the key word is 'balanced'.

However, for obvious reasons we are a 'nut free' school due to the fact that there will be children and adults who have severe allergies and it is our duty to safeguard everybody as best we can. We also do not permit sweets as it is not felt that these are appropriate as either part of a 'healthy' lunch or snack. We would be grateful for your support on these things.

We do encourage children to bring in a piece of fruit should they require something to eat during morning break although children in Reception and Key Stage One are offered an item from the government 'Fruit Scheme' which we are a part of.

### Attendance

Inevitably attendance will be affected at this time due to people awaiting test results. However, last week across the school it stood at 95.9%.

### Assemblies

Of course, we are unable to hold whole school assemblies at present. However, by the time you receive this letter, we will have trialled a 'virtual assembly'! We will keep you posted as to how this worked!

### And Finally....

I want to publicly extend my thanks to **all** members of staff across the school who are working relentlessly to ensure we are able to provide the very best we can. The days are constant with very little opportunity for them to take a great deal of time out for themselves.

As always, we would like to wish you all a pleasant, enjoyable and restful weekend.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr C Gibson