



Broadwindsor Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Drimpton Road
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“Learning and growing together”

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School website: www.broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Philip Smith

10.9.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to wish all of our children and families a warm welcome back on behalf of all the staff and I hope your child has enjoyed their first week back at school.



Highlights for me have been seeing all the children playing with each other and sounds of laughter outside. It is such a tonic during these strange times. The older children are especially enjoying skipping games out on the playground. Our plans and arrangements detailed within our risk assessment are going well. Our virtual Collective Worship still needs a bit of work but that is mainly down to Mr Smith needing to improve the technology. We now have web cams in each classroom so each class can see each other in assembly which adds to the excitement levels. Next week we will have our first virtual Praise Assembly involving all the classes on Thursday where children will receive special mentions over our virtual platform. Unfortunately, for the time being we will be unable to invite parents and families into school for sharing/praise assemblies as we would usually do. We will keep this under review.

A special welcome is made to all our new families that are joining Broadwindsor School for the first time and especially our new Reception children. I look forward to getting to know your children and families. The stay and play sessions have worked well for our new intake and it has been nice to see how independent the children are already. Next week Reception pupils can come at the same time as all the other pupils, between 8.30am and 8.45am (a change to the original plan).

Learning at school and home.

The children have quickly got back into learning and the new routines at school. For the first few weeks we are providing children with a range of activities to see where the children are and teach them appropriately. For example, the whole-school are beginning an English topic around the book 'Here we are' and then work through a range of age appropriate learning activities. Each maths topic the children encounter we will begin with some assessment activities and we will continue to use White Rose resources.



Over the next few weeks we will be preparing pupils to use the Microsoft TEAMS platform which will be used to distribute and communicate around learning if children need to be off school during the continued Covid-19 situation. We will also use this to distribute weekly homework and use it within school. The school has also ordered further laptops to use within class bubbles to enable more ICT learning and equip children with the necessary ICT skills. Children will continue to use SUMdog and Accelerated

Reader as core tools both at school and home. They have received reminders of their logins this week.

Class teachers will also send class newsletters over the next few days giving you a flavour of what is happening in class and how you can support your child at home.



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Current arrangements I know may make us all feel less connected but we very much want to work with you in partnership. If you have queries around learning or your child's class the best way to contact staff is through the class email addresses*. It is also possible to contact the school office to arrange a phone call and teaching staff will endeavour to call you back as soon as possible but this may be at the end of the day.

For other queries or support you require please contact the school office via email office@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk . With all queries we will do our best to respond and help as soon as possible. The school office is closed to visitors so all contact needs to be via email or telephone.

Beginning and End of Day arrangements

Thank you for supporting our new start and end of day arrangements.

Please **do not arrive on site before** 8.30am as we have several tasks related to our Covid-19 risk assessment such as additional cleaning which mean we are not ready to receive pupils until this time. If you arrive by car we suggest staying in the car until 8.30am. Parents can accompany pupils into the playground but are not able to enter the school buildings including cloakrooms.



We do ask that parents arrive promptly to pick up their child from the correct part of the playground at the end of the day and children **stay with you** once released into your care. Again try not to arrive more than a couple of minutes before and we ask that you social distance from other families.

To avoid unnecessary cross over where you have multiple pick-ups, we ask that families pick up children from the main school playgrounds first and then collect your William Barnes children last from the MUGA. You can use the path between the sheds around the left side of the building in a one way direction up to the MUGA and then leave via the MUGA exit by the shop.

Cases of positive tests are rising country wide and all of these measures are especially important to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

Furthermore, if your child displays any of the following symptoms associated with Coronavirus please **do not** send your child to school, these symptoms are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell

We ask that you get tested if you have any one of these symptoms and let us know the results. While waiting for the result your household should self-isolate and that means siblings will also need to stay off school. On a negative result the family can return to school.

It is inevitable that some children will feel unwell, e.g sore throat, stomach upset or a headache. These pupils do not need to be tested, but may need to stay off school and seek medical advice through your GP, pharmacy or NHS101 as usual. However, we ask parents to be vigilant and if any Covid symptoms develop such as a high temperature, then testing should be sought. For accessing testing, use the online facility [here](#) or if you have difficulties on the internet call NHS 119.



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Further guidance for parents can be found on the Government website and can be accessed via this [link](#)

These next few months are going to be a challenge for all of us and testing will become a very routine situation in order that we can reduce the spread of the virus and keep schools open as much as possible. We will liaise with Public Health England and will take appropriate action where advised.

Dates for the diary

Monday 14th September Reception pupils stay for all morning sessions 8.45am -12noon this week and stay for lunch on Wednesday 16th – pick up at 1.15pm

Monday 21st September Reception pupils attend full-time

Thursday 1st October Young Shakespeare Company visiting KS2 pupils

Friday 23rd October INSET Day – School closed for Pupils

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October School closed for half term



I want to say a very big thank you to the PTA and all the children and families who took part in the Broadwindsor School Fun Run event at the end of last term. Raising just over £1700 is a fantastic result! This will help towards our improvements in school ICT equipment.

Once again may I wish all of our school community a very successful and happy year and I look forward to working with you all.

Thank you for your continued support

Phil Smith
Headteacher

*class email addresses:

Reception Class – maryanning@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk

Year 1 & 2 – thomashardy@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk

Year 3 & 4 – williambarnes@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk

Year 5 & 6 – janeausten@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk



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