



Brampton Primary School
Brampton Road
London E6 3LB
tel: 020 8472 0830
info@brampton.newham.sch.uk

Mr K Reid
Headteacher
B.Ed. (Hons), NPOH

15 January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I hope you are all well and that you and your children are enjoying the daily teaching sessions. Thank you so much for the messages on Teams, and by email, expressing your appreciation for the commitment and hard work of your child's teacher. This is a strange and tough time for everyone, including school staff working from home, and to know that what they are doing is so well-received by parents and children makes everything worthwhile.

As I said last week, remote learning cannot replace class teaching in terms of interaction, connection and depth of understanding, for children and teachers, but we must stay connected and keep learning high on everyone's agenda.

Return to School

Some parents have asked when the school will be open again. The government has stated that primary schools are to remain closed until the February half-term at the earliest. **With that in mind, the earliest date that children might return to school is Monday 22nd February.**

If that date changes, I will inform you.

Home Contact Details

We have been sending/delivering home learning packs for children who do not have internet access, and in some cases we have found out that families do not live at the address we have on our system. **If you have moved, changed phones or email addresses, please inform the school office.**

Online Behaviour and Happy Hour

In most cases, the children are amazingly focused and well-behaved during lessons and when using the chat to discuss learning. Please support us by regularly checking what your child is doing when connected to Teams. Inappropriate messaging (being unkind, posting memes, non-learning chat etc.) will be dealt with through the online behaviour policy and children will be sanctioned should they not heed initial warnings to stop.

We want to ensure that children who display the correct attitudes and behaviours are rewarded and the teachers will be choosing children for rewards during achievement assemblies. They will also be selecting one child each week who will join Mr Reid's 'Happy Hour' (20 minutes 😊) on a Friday at 3pm. This will be where they can talk about their learning and just enjoy the opportunity to chat and maybe have a short story read to them.



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Critical Workers

At the beginning of the lockdown, we surveyed parents to find out how many were critical workers. If you responded and your child is not going to be attending school, could you please email the school using info@brampton.newham.sch.uk and confirm. We have a staff rota, but, for health and safety reasons, we are keen not to have extra staff in school if they are not needed.

Parent/Teacher Meetings – Wednesday 10th February

This term we will be holding parent/teacher meetings during the day on Wednesday 10th February. Your child's teacher will post learning for the class to work on during that day and teachers will spend the day meeting parents via Microsoft Teams. Precise times and booking details will be sent shortly.

After School Care and Breakfast Club

We have had a small number of enquiries about ASC and Breakfast Club for children of critical workers. If we decide to open, it will be a reduced offer during the closure period:

Breakfast Club: 8:15am

ASC: 3:05/3:10 – 4:30pm

There would be a reduced price for ASC due to children attending for less hours than usual which will be no more than £5:00. To be certain of numbers, please email info@brampton.newham.sch.uk with Breakfast/ASC in the subject line and stating your child's name and class. Once we know that there is a need, and how many adults might be needed to run it, we will inform you of the start date.

Wellbeing and Good Mental Health

As I said last week, extended screen time is not great for physical health and it can be particularly bad for our eyes. Eye specialists are recommending the 20-20-20 rule to protect your eyesight when working from home on a screen (or using your phone too much). They advise that for every 20 minutes spent looking at a screen, you then spend at least 20 seconds looking at something 20 feet away (6 metres for those of you who are under 50... ☺).

I can only reiterate that working at home itself can be a cause of tension. Wi-Fi or connection problems, getting children to concentrate and complete work, sharing devices, feeling isolated and alone, or just not fully grasping what the teacher is trying to teach can all cause stress, feelings of inadequacy and make you feel fed-up.

My advice is just to do what you can and encourage the same of your child. It is vitally important that all children log on daily so they stay connected to school, their friends and teaching staff. If children struggle to complete all the work, take breaks and come back to it



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later, do 5 minutes of exercise to recharge their batteries (do it with them and recharge yours too), have a snack or some water. Try not to let home become a battleground because each day will get tougher and everyone's wellbeing will suffer.

Remember, your child's teacher is at the end of an email, as are support staff. Senior staff are also available should you need support. If you need help, and many of us do when plunged into a different and stressful situation, just ask, we are only too happy to help.

Have a break from all school work this weekend and do something as a family – make a cake, paint a picture, play some board games or go for a nice walk to blow away the cobwebs. Whatever you do, have a lovely weekend.

Take care and stay safe,

Mr Kevin Reid
Headteacher