



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

12th February 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I hope you are all well and staying healthy, despite being in lockdown. It feels like we have been indoors forever, but with the infection rates falling, perhaps it will not be a requirement for very much longer.

The number of children in school has risen significantly recently and I am asking that if you can, you should continue to keep your child at home. Remote learning only works as well as it does while teachers are free to teach, rather than be part of the school rota. Hopefully, the two weeks after half-term will be the final ones where children need to stay home, and then we can all be back in school, learning in classrooms.

Once again, I want to thank parents and children for their amazing efforts over this half-term. The engagement with lessons has been superb, and the feedback we have received has, in the overwhelming majority of cases, been positive. Attendance at parent meetings was also very high and the teachers were very positive about the conversations they had, and the kindness, understanding and appreciation shown towards them for their efforts.

Newham Half-Term Holiday Programme

Please follow the link to find out the huge range of activities are available for all the family this half-term. <https://www.newham.gov.uk/ActivitiesForYoungPeople> or here

<https://brampton.newham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Half-termActivitiesProgramme.pdf>

Faith and Heritage Learning Network: Healthy Half Term – Online Event

Over the February half-term 2021, the Faith and Heritage Learning Network have joined together to create a series of health-inspired videos and activities exploring the links between health, science and wellbeing within our collections and buildings.

Discover a new video from one of their partner organisations each day between 15th - 20th February. Be fascinated by these incredible stories, get creative with crafts, experiments and activities, and take some time reflect on what these stories mean to us today.

<https://www.wherecanwego.com/item/e1431837/online-event-faith-and-heritage-learning-network-healthy-half-term>

There are also half-term activities for next week with a focus on faith and heritage - events at Jewish Museum, British library amongst others. Check out their websites for more details.

[Home - The Jewish Museum London](#)

[The British Library - The British Library \(bl.uk\)](#)



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Newham's Support for Parents of Children with SEND

We know that lockdown and remote teaching have really challenged families who have children SEND. Newham have opened a YouTube channel in which they are posting useful videos that offer support strategies for parents who have children with SEND. The videos are compiled by the following agencies:

- The Complex Needs and Dyslexia Service including Professional Dyslexia and Dyscalculia Service (PDDS),
- The Language, Communication and Interaction Service (LCIS)
- The Sensory Service
- The Educational Psychology Service

They can be accessed via the Brampton – SEND Parents Support Group Teams page or here:

<https://brampton.newham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Parental-Support-for-Children-with-SEND-1.pdf>

<https://brampton.newham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Parental-Support-for-Children-with-SEND-2.pdf>

East Ham Community Neighbourhood

Ever wondered what jobs people do in our local area and what they like about their jobs? The East Ham Community Neighbourhood have been encouraging children to pose some questions to those who work in our community. The videos below show the diverse roles people play in making local services run smoothly:

<https://we.tl/t-nPQyd4yrKH>

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Vaccination Poster Competition and Star Learner Quiz

To help increase the number of residents taking up the offer of a Covid-19 vaccination, Newham are running a poster competition for young people to take part in. Check out the flyer here for all the details:

<https://brampton.newham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Childrens-Vaccination-Poster-Competition-Poster.pdf>

There is also a simple quiz that helps us all remember the key things we need to do to stop the spread of the virus.

<https://brampton.newham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Star-Learner-Quiz.pdf>

United Nations International Day of Women and Girls in Science – 11th February



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To celebrate the fantastic achievements of women and girls in science, and to promote the sciences and technology as career paths for girls, Newham has launched the 'siSTEMic' project. If you want to find out about the opportunities open to girls in science follow the link:

<https://brampton.newham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/International-day-of-women-and-girls-in-science-.pdf>

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The six weeks of lockdown and supporting children at home with their learning will have challenged most parents, and will have had an impact on the children as well. Please use next week to do something other than just 'doing more work'. I would urge you to prioritise reading because it is the most important skill any child can learn, as it impacts on all other areas of learning and day-to-day life.

If you do not have access to many books at home, there are many excellent websites that have lots of online books for children to read, watch, listen to and enjoy. Here is a small selection, but a Google search will reveal many more:

[Stories for kids online and fun games to play | BookTrust](#)

[MagicBlox Children's Book Library | Read Kid's Books Online for FREE!](#)

[Free Children's Books | Free Children's Books Pdf Online | Monkey Pen – Monkey Pen Store](#)

Beyond that, make the most of no remote learning for a week and get outside as often as you can, and as safely as you can – social distancing, masks when in shops and not mixing households. Try to connect with nature and explore your local park and those beyond your immediate location – there are lots of parks scattered about East Ham that you might not even know about. Why not see how many parks there are within a 30-minute walk from your home – are there more than five? Which is the best? Which one has the most nature watching opportunities, or allows you to explore areas you might not normally go such as nature reserves?

Physical Activity

The importance of physical activity cannot be overstated as a healthy body contributes towards a healthy mind and overall wellbeing. Children are welcome to continue uploading their exercise regimes and challenges to the PE Team, and I am sure that some of the staff will add their contributions too – we look forward to seeing them.

Teams Chat Function

We would like the children to stay connected over half-term and will be leaving the chat function on during the coming week. However, I must stress that parents need to monitor their child's use so that they do not post anything inappropriate. We have recently had to speak with some parents



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after their children were reported to have used the Teams chat to post unkind messages to others, or have conversations that we felt might be safeguarding concerns. However, we do not want to close it down because of the actions of a very small number of children, when most use it properly. ***All chats are recorded and monitored and any child who chooses to use it in a way that is considered inappropriate, will have their account suspended.***

Whatever you do next week, try make the most of it. The activities in some of the links above all provide fun things to do for all the family.

Take care and stay safe, and remember, we are still here, even over the break. If you should need support or advice, email info@brampton.newham.sch.uk or contact the key person if you have their details (many of you have my number).

Have a lovely half-term.

Kevin Reid

Headteacher