



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

**6<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I hope that this letter finds you all healthy, positive and keeping your head above water. Well done for getting to, and through, the penultimate week of this half-term in one piece. It really has been an interesting week, but the connection between home and school is staying strong, as it should be.

I have dipped into various lessons during the week and seen first-hand the engagement between adults and children. It is very encouraging to see children eager to learn and keep up in all curriculum areas. Again, I extend my thanks to the whole school community for their efforts and resilience, both of which have kept the momentum of home learning at a good pace. Hopefully, there are only a few more weeks before we are all back in school again.

#### **Uploading Completed Work - Essential**

A big thank you to those children who are regularly uploading their work for their teachers to see, whether it is a PE video or a photo of a model, some writing or number work. It is essential that children upload all work and tasks they are asked to by their teachers. During the closure, it is the only way we can assess the impact of our teaching and make a judgement about the progress and learning taking place, and give children meaningful feedback on which they can act.

I do understand that in a household with limited technology, this might present challenges, but if you can, you must. If you are in receipt of a loaned school laptop, this is an absolute minimum requirement.

#### **WiFi Accessibility**

If you are struggling with access to Wi-Fi, we have been given 50 BT Wi-Fi vouchers which we can distribute to those families who need support. These have codes that will provide free Internet access until July. If you would benefit from this, please email [info@brampton.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@brampton.newham.sch.uk) and we will give them out on a first come, first served basis.

Please be aware that they might require that you live close to a BT Wi-Fi hotspot in order to be fully operational, and there is no guarantee on our part that they will work as well as you may want.

#### **Thanks for the Laptop Donations**

This week we were very lucky to be contacted by Abigail from Zoopla, the estate agency, who asked if we would like some laptops. We received 8 high quality laptops which we are preparing to send out to families in need of devices. A huge thank you to Zoopla for their generous offer.

We also had a laptop donated by a neighbour of John Bennell, a very keen reader in our reception class. Our thanks go out to John's mum for thinking of us and to the neighbour for her kindness.



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### **Newham Carers, Parents and Young People**

Last week I attached a poster detailing the workshops being run in Newham, supporting families during this crisis. Please take another look at last week's letter as the workshops are really helpful. This week's is titled 'Supporting children during the Coronavirus pandemic'. To join via Zoom follow:

<https://zoom.us/j/95579486838>

Meeting ID: 955 7948 6838

By phone: 0203 481 5240 or 0203 901 7895 or 0203 481 2357 or 0131 461 1196

### **Parent Meeting Day – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

Please make sure you book a slot to meet your child's teacher over Teams next week. As everyone is so much more competent at using Teams than in the previous meetings in October, we are confident that next week will run smoothly. You will be allocated a 10-minute period to discuss your child's learning, and their engagement during the closure.

### **Timings**

Please do not be offended if a teacher asks for a meeting to end if the ten minutes are up. Teachers are under strict instructions to keep to these timings, as one late meeting will impact on all the later ones and it is a very long day on-screen for staff.

### **Expectations for Children on Wednesday**

As teachers will not be teaching, and as we will have just had Children's Mental Health Week (I think this should be every week), we would like children to have a reduced-screen day. I have deliberately not said a completely screen-free day, because if there is no structured timetable, keeping children off their gaming devices, phones or TV will challenge the toughest parents...and you need your mental health looked after too.

I have attached some links to activities that children (and parents) might enjoy doing together that do not require a laptop, tablet or phone. There is a link for EYFS, KS1 and KS2, so there should be something for everyone.

- EYFS: <https://brampton.newham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Screen-free-activities-EYFS.pdf>
- KS1: <https://brampton.newham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Screen-free-activities-KS1.pdf>
- KS2: <https://brampton.newham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Screen-free-activities-KS2.pdf>

The best advice I can give is that you at least do these three things at some time during the day:

- Read



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- Get out for some exercise, a walk or cycle ride, or a kick about in the park
- Turn your TV off and do something as a family – bake a cake, make a meal, play a game

### **Music, Spanish and PE (Okay, there is some screen time if you want it)**

Our specialist teachers will be running live sessions with some fun activities at set times throughout the day. Further details will be sent out next week with how to access these sessions.

	EYFS	Year 1 & 2	Year 3 & 4	Year 5 & 6	Year 3 to 6
<b>Music with Mr Kennaway</b>	1:15 – 2:00		9 - 10	10 - 11	
<b>Spanish with Ms Valverde</b>	12:30 – 1:15		10 - 11	9 - 10	
<b>PE with Mr Gillingham</b>	11- 11:30	9 – 9:45			1:15-2:15
<b>PE with Kai</b>	9 – 9:30	11 – 11:45			1:15-2:15

If you would rather your child was engaged in more formal learning, there are the online platforms we regularly use that you can also access: Bug Club, TTRS, Oak Academy and the like.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

I think that in some ways, there is more uncertainty than ever right now, which can unbalance us mentally. We are bombarded with information as well as misinformation. Recently much of it is about vaccinations and schools reopening, which brings hope, but also worries. Is it going to be safe to get a vaccine jab? Will school be safe for my child if it opens in March? There are lots of conflicting stories, depending on who you listen to or what you read, and this causes fear and confusion.

If you or members of your families have any concerns about the safety of getting vaccinated, use the NHS website as it is superb. The information is straightforward, honest and will answer most questions you can think of. If you are worried about school when we approach reopening time, speak with us. We will be clear with you about the measures we have in place and what we are doing to keep everyone in school safe. Clear, direct and honest facts are always best.

Enjoy the rest of this weekend, and for those of you who like it, they are forecasting snow this weekend – personally, I love it!

Take care and stay safe.

**Kevin Reid**

**Headteacher**