

Dear parents and carers,

The end of another week and I feel this email will have the same theme as many of the previous ones...we are waiting for further guidance. What we do know is that the government has said that there will be full school re-opening in September, which will be compulsory. This is really good news, as it is a positive step towards normality. However, we are awaiting guidance on the protective measures that might be in place. The Education Minister has talked about bubbles of 30, and we know from current experience, bubbles come with rules, mainly that they may not mix. We can speculate what the guidance might mean for us in practice, but as we are expecting guidance next week, I will wait until we know more for certain. I will, of course, write with more information about what school in September will look like, once we have interpreted the guidance. We cannot wait to have all our children back in school again!

Additional Children in School

With the change in government guidance for social distancing from 4 July, we are reviewing our risk assessments to evaluate whether we are able to increase the size of our bubbles, to a maximum of 15, which remains the limit. This will largely depend on the size and shape of the classrooms and whether we can fit tables in whilst still enabling 1 metre distance wherever possible. If we are able to increase numbers, we will first contact those parents who had already expressed a wish for their child to return in Key Worker/Vulnerable, EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6. We will apply our criteria for allocating places (key worker, Pupil Premium, SEN, single child families). We will not be able to increase the number of bubbles, as we have no available staff to do so.

Everything will depend on the virus transmission rate remaining low and continuing to decline. We must all play our part in ensuring that we follow social distancing rules and other guidelines about contacts over the coming months, particularly those families whose children are coming into school.

Pupil Premium/Free School Meals/National Tutoring Programme

The government has also launched a National Tutoring Programme (this was previously referred to as 'Catch Up' funding). This will be targeted on pupils who are eligible for Pupil Premium (Free School Meals). If you receive any of the following benefits, the school will be entitled to Pupil Premium funding, your child will receive a free school meal (this is different to the Universal Free School Meals for EYFS and KS1) and your child will also be eligible for the National Tutoring Programme. Applications can be made here <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/help-with-school-learning-costs/free-school-meals>. If you already receive Free School Meals, you do not need to apply again.

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit Only (with income up to £16,190) with no element of Working Tax Credit
- National Asylum Seekers Support
- Guarantee Element of the State Pension Credit
- Employment and Support Allowance (income related)
- Universal Credit (income dependant)

End of Year Transition

We are planning for the children's move up to their next year group. Next week, I will send information about which teachers and teaching assistants will be working in which classes. Each member of staff has written a short introduction to themselves with a photograph, so you and your children will be able to become familiar with staff you may not know. The teachers will also be

producing a short video for each class. There will be further information about the transition to the new class over the next couple of weeks.

Planning for September – Parent Questionnaire

As part of our planning for the Autumn term curriculum, it will be very helpful to have feedback from parents about how your child has coped in the months since schools were closed in March. This will be sent as a separate document and I encourage you to give as much information as possible. We know we will need to re-connect children with school, the adults, each other and learning and we are currently planning how we will do this. Your feedback will form an essential part of this.

Land's End to John O'Groats Challenge

As we won't be having a Sports Day this year, Miss Ivory is organising a run/walk/cycle challenge – can the school community run/walk/cycle the 874 miles distance from Land's End to John O'Groats in one week? I think we definitely can – as long as the weather cools down a bit! Further details will be sent out later today.

Don't Forget to Check the Website! <https://www.bournschool.co.uk/weekly-reviews-winners/>

On the Latest News Tab, there are lots of fun ideas, competitions and photographs. Did you see the Art Imitates Life powerpoint the staff put together? <https://www.bournschool.co.uk/weekly-reviews-winners/week-7-life-imitates-art/> then click on Life Imitates Art. You have to open it up as a powerpoint document to see the full glory! – can you and your family replicate a painting?

Have a good weekend!

If Home Learning has slowed down this week – I am not surprised! The heat has been difficult for us all to cope with and when it is this hot in school, we often find children (and ourselves) get hot and bothered and we don't produce our best. Get the paddling pool and hose pipe out and have fun (and be glad you aren't on Bournemouth beach...!)

Best wishes,

*Laura Latham
Headteacher
Bourn Primary Academy
01954 719282*