



Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School



Date 9th July 2020

End of Year letter July 2020

For our Parents and friends,

Well who would have imagined that the end of the school year would look like this and we would have had so long apart from each other. I am in awe of how you have all managed to juggle work; home schooling and looking after loved ones. You will have all achieved so much, more than you will know and have been part of living history.

As we plan for September, we are intending to see all children back in school with our school kitchen open for hot lunches and our out of school provision 'The Hub' open. We have been working on the model of how this will all work in line with Government guidance but I have learned over the last few months that things can change and adapt quite quickly and so I propose to outline this at the end of August so you are kept fully up to date. To reassure you though as you try and plan your working patterns, our plans are for school to commence at the original times 8.50 on the yard and 3.15 finish (although we may revise and use additional entry and exit points into the school grounds to promote parent and children's safety).

There will be some changes that we will have to adapt to but I am determined that these will not detract from the wide and rich education provision that we strive to fulfil. We are still looking at how brass lessons may work, whether we will be able to transport our children to swimming, how school trips and events may be able to go ahead but just as the Government have done with lockdown, we will be able to introduce more things as we can find ways to do them safely.

We will be asking children to attend in school uniform and page 26 of our prospectus found on our website has the full information http://www.brethertonschool.org.uk/serve_file/420863

I have already updated you on the staffing in each classroom. We are fortunate to have highly skilled and motivated staff who have a proven track record of success. We are confident that as part of our 'Reconnect' curriculum starting September, children will be supporting in their education and if they have any gaps, they will be identified and planned for. We have an exciting curriculum ready to launch in September for our foundation subjects, which will really ignite our children's curiosity and love of learning – we cannot wait to share this with you early Autumn term.

Therefore, no more reflecting on the past let us think of a positive and healthy future.

So to summer

Thank you for your responses to the Education at home provision throughout the last 3 months. We want to ensure that we learn from our experiences, move on with strength in the event of any future situations, also take the positives of the experience, and blend them into our practice. We are delighted that our offering of curriculum planning has met your needs as our teaching and support staff worked hard to follow our curriculum coverage (as much as we could). I have included the analysis of this time in our, the Covid return to school area of the website. All feedback has helped shape our summer offering and what we aim to improve on should home/ school learning be required again.

Mrs Clarke has been updating the 'Education at Home' page so that all historic links have been removed. I am certain that many of those links will have been utilised by our families and we felt you would appreciate from a new, streamlined list in case you wish to continue with some learning over the summer. I have attached details at the end of this letter to outline what is available and hope that you find it useful. Equally, if you manage to have some time together away from work and schoolwork, please do not feel that you need to complete it – we hope that we are giving everyone the options that they require. If you have any questions on this or need anything further now or during the holidays, please feel free to contact me. See the note at the bottom of the letter.

Remember to access the West Lancs sports challenges over the summer. I have attached a great duathlon (running and cycling challenge) that can be done in our area when you fancy an active day or days in the holidays. For lots of activities and ideas see <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZVB-z8m2Z29TDVwll7oAaatW1F-I5HVS> There are some amazing forest school and coaching packs that would be great on your holidays or staycation.

Families eligible for Free School Meals will be receiving the total of 6 weeks vouchers as one voucher sent directly from the DFE. I would like to ask you to contact me if you have any problems or if you feel that you may be eligible as the benefits can be available straight away if you meet the criteria.

Goodbye Year 6 and Thank You

Thank you for the children of Year 6 and their families for making our afternoon special on Wednesday. It was our last afternoon with Year 6 children before they journey onto their respective High Schools and although the weather wasn't kind, the time together on the field was lovely. If you would like to hear some of the great messages of thanks, please have a look at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1YdjBrfQzVc_G5Zx04xrgPtC5DfpACr_I?usp=sharing

We cannot wait to hear about the fabulous times they will have as they start secondary school and would like to wish them every success. Special thanks to Miss Gallagher (Bespoke Cakes) for her wonderful cake gifts- they were amazing!

Also a special mention to our Governors for their autograph books and for joining us, Rev Michael for arranging the generous donation of Youth Bibles and Bretherton's WI for their wonderful baking and special biscuits (Thank you Mr & Mrs Marchbank for their gifts) – this was a special surprise that they will remember forever.

And yet more 'Goodbyes' to those families who we have loved being part of school but who are leaving us this summer.

- Thank you to Mr & Mrs Berry; Mr & Mrs Boucher; Mrs Ackerman; Mr & Mrs Sykes; Mr & Mrs Hitchen, Mr & Mrs Simpson; Mrs Friend; Mrs Dollard.

You will all be missed but as I always say to the children, once you have been part of the Bretherton family, you stay in our hearts forever. We hope to catch up with you all again in the future.

Thank you to Mrs Sykes for her generous donation to school which will be put towards a new banner to represent our mission statement- I can't wait to get the children involved in the design of it in September

New Reception starters in September

We had a lovely storytelling morning on Thursday with our new Reception children. It was lovely to meet them again, introduce them to our forest area for the Gingerbread Man story and meet their parents in person too.

Our transition has had to change this year but I would like to thank Mrs Williams and the class 1 team for their work on creating fun learning at home packs, zoom meetings, phone calls home and to nursery to ensure they feel part of our family straight away. We look forward to getting to know them better. We have slightly amended their start to school in September after the Covid-19 situation but we cannot wait to see them soon.

Sports 2019 2020

Although we have been thwarted by the weather in early Autumn of 2019 and Covid in 2020, our children have still managed to be champions of the sports we could compete in. From Table Tennis, sports hall athletics and Cricket, our teams have achieved success. Thanks to our children staff and Mrs Glew, we have qualified for the following School Games Mark Awards this year:

Ongoing commitment and achievement in the School Games Programme 2019-20

Support, commitment and engagement of virtual programmes 2019-20

And in the circumstances, this is fabulous news.

Congratulations again to Emmi Hibbert and Charlie Pearson for winning Gold in the virtual competitions.



After school clubs

We have had enquiries from Jujitsu, Art Club, Spanish, and Rugbytots so far as they cannot wait to come back and offer clubs in school. We are working with them to risk assess how we can facilitate this so information on these clubs will be available for when we get back in September.

The Hub

Thank you for those families who responded to our questionnaire regarding needing the Hub for before and after school club. We appreciate your time and although we know that many of you may not know fully what you need, your responses will make it easier for us to plan a provision that will hopefully work for all. We will continue to try and be as flexible as we can but it may be necessary to know a week before the sessions in order to keep an eye on the numbers. Of course, this may change, so I propose to email the risk assessment and plan for the operation of the Hub at the end of August at which time your sessions will be able to be 'booked'. If you have any questions or concerns before that communication, please email me and I will update you with the facts so far.

Phonics assessment in Autumn 2020

The Government has announced that Year 2 will be asked to sit a statutory phonics assessment in Autumn 2020. In its update, the STA said its current proposal is that schools will administer "a past version of the check" to year 2 pupils "during the second half of the 2020 autumn term". Year 2 pupils who meet the expected standard in the autumn check will not be required to complete any further statutory assessments in phonics. Year 2 pupils who do not meet the expected standard in the autumn check will be expected to take the statutory check in June 2021. We are believed to have the flexibility to decide when to administer the check and can choose which version of past materials to use. This information will be submitted to the Local Authority and DFE and we will report to parents along with any next steps in our Spring parents evening. This is not a cause for concern, but a way to celebrate the children's phonetic understanding and the children will not know that it is an assessment – just that it is a fun check-up. Mrs Clarke has added some phonics games to the Education at Home page.

Free cycle training over the summer

For KS2: I am delighted to invite any Year 5, 6 or 7 pupils to our free summer holiday sessions. Level 1 & 2 will be delivered together with Level 1 first in the morning followed immediately by Level 2, which will run over 2 consecutive days after which on the second afternoon Level 3 will be on offer to those wishing to advance. Your own equipment will be required; we are not able to lend any equipment and cycle must be in working order. This year owing to Covid conditions, we are not able to handle equipment. If you may be interested, please follow either of these 2 links for a more up to date invitation:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/go-velo-holiday-sessions-20129268401> web page, which has a link to all course for adults and children or <https://www.govelo.co.uk/book-a-course/>

There is no cost for any of this training. All instructors are First Aid qualified and are DBS (CRB) checked.

For KS1: I am delighted to invite any non-riders to our free summer holiday sessions. We will be providing all the necessary equipment, which will be cleaned by our team, and parents will be asked to sanitise with our wipes before your child uses the equipment. These sessions will be approximately 2 hours and parents must remain with their child to assist learning, as our instructors will need to keep as socially distant as possible. If you are interested, please follow either of these 2 links for a more up to date invitation:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/go-velo-holiday-sessions-20129268401> web page, which has a link to all course for adults and children or <https://www.govelo.co.uk/book-a-course/>

Thank you for your kind words

Finally, I would like to thank you on behalf of Bretherton staff for the kind words and encouragement that we have received not just this last week but through the last 4 months. Your understanding and support has been greatly appreciated and for you to take the time to email or call has been so welcome.

The staff team would like to say a huge thank you for the cards and gifts received this week. We have the best jobs in the world and feel it a privilege and joy to be able to be a part of your family and child's life. Whilst never expected, your kind gestures are appreciated. Thank you again.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Governors for steering our school to be the wonderful school it is. Their challenge and support in equal measures ensures that we are always looking to be the best that we can be. For our fantastic army of volunteers in school who come and support teachers with paperwork, read with individual children and supporting learning, THANKYOU. We hope to see you soon in September. I will contact you to see whether we can organise a mutually acceptable plan to keep everyone safe.

Therefore, I would like to end by wishing you a wonderful summer. Let us hope for a brighter future and that we meet again in September safe and well.



Best wishes,

Alison Moxham

Alison Moxham and the Bretherton Team

Education at Home over the summer months.

Thank you to all parents who completed our survey regarding the home learning which staff had been setting for children throughout the lockdown period. Children have worked extremely hard these last few weeks and we understand that many of you are now ready for time off schoolwork to be able to recharge your batteries and have time together as a family. As a result, staff will not be setting home learning for children through the homework page where children can log on.

However, there have been some requests for activities that you can do with your child over the school summer holiday to keep their minds active and to help them remember the basic skills in English and maths. We have also put on some transition booklets and activities that you can complete with your child in preparation for the new school year and some activities for outdoor activities and rainy day activities. Some of these include English and maths skills.

As well as these downloadable documents, children still have access to Spelling Shed, Maths Shed and Purple Mash. Spelling Shed will continue to focus on words suitable for your child's year group and there are the high frequency words for practise at home attached on here as a document. Maths Shed will give them access to basic skills and concepts, particularly times tables etc. and on Purple Mash, children can complete an activity of their choice and save it. A 2Do does not need to be set.

We have also included some phonics activities for you to practise particularly with reception, year one and year two children. It is vital they continue to practise the different phonemes.

We hope that you have a busy and fun filled summer and if there is only one activity, you can complete for school, reading each day is important for all children as this supports their writing also in school.