



**BRETHERTON ENDOWED CE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Walking in the footsteps of Jesus with our Christian family, we learn, grow, achieve and flourish together in God's love.

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! It has been lovely to see everyone back at school and to hear the chatter of conversations and giggles. Each class has been brilliant at following our hygiene routines and they have been helping us tweak our risk assessment (without knowing) by offering suggestions and insight. So many children can reflect on some of the positive changes that have occurred during Lockdown and all have appreciated the special time with family. I am certain that you too will be missing that time together, but as we start the new school year, we can celebrate those stronger connections, understanding and relationships we hold.

We wanted the start of school to be a positive and happy experience for all. Some children may have been nervous whilst others eager to return. Either way, our staff have tried to ensure that they have reconnected, been available, listened and reassured. I would like to reassure you that we are doing our best to follow the guidance and put your children's safety, education and wellbeing as our top priority. As parents as well as teachers, we understand your worries, which is why we have tried to think of everything with your children at the heart of our decisions and with all good intentions. We will continually review and evaluate our procedures, will change things if they do not work and act promptly when needed. I would like to thank our staff for their positive return, they have shown their qualities and determination to be the best they can be for every child.

Thank you for your understanding as we embark on our journey into the new term – we will keep you updated via text, email and fortnightly newsletter.

Slight amendments to end of day routines

Thank you for your understanding in relation to our Covid -19 limitations, some of which are mentioned in this letter. We are concerned with the end of day process in relation to adults safety in relation to Covid and social distancing and children safeguarding in releasing children out of the gate without parents walking down to collect them I hope to keep the end of school the same time for all as I feel this is the most efficient for parents, however, the one way system we tried to set up doesn't seem to be working well. Children walking up to meet their parents rather than parents walking to meet their child mean that children are walking around parents waiting on the end of the path/kerb and this is a concern. Therefore, we have decided to tweak it slightly as although our Covid processes are important, safeguarding your children is more important and we are positioned on a busy road. In my attempt to avoid staggered pick up times, I would like to slightly change how parents use the one-way system. Sadly, we do not have an easy one-way system but I hope that this ensures parents and reunited with their children safely.

If we could ask ALL parents to enter the playground anytime from 3.10 through the double gates open outside the porch and stand (socially distancing) for your child to come out with their class and as soon as they meet you if we could ask you to walk along the front of school in a one-way system. If you are collecting a Class 4 child, they will exit the porch and walk to the main gate where you can meet them. I hope this will reduce the number of families near the railing and prevent them having to pass each other on the busy road (which does feel extra busy due to the road works in Croston). If Class 1 parents can continue to collect their child at 3.10 and if they have an older sibling, walk along the outside of school

and enter the double gate near the porch (the same as other parents) into the playground for your older children.

This will start from Monday if we can ask for your help in following this.

Meet the Teacher

Next week we will hold a 'meet the teacher' session this Wednesday after school. This is to meet the class teacher **IF** you have any questions or would like to discuss your child with them. Due to the restrictions, we cannot welcome you all into school but our teachers will be on the playground and would be happy to see you. We will not distribute any documents at this 'meeting' but send all class related documents as an email by the end of the week and they will be posted on the class website. These will include an overview of what your child will learn in English and Maths, an overview of their topics for the year and a letter outlining class routines such as PE and homework timetables. If you have questions or cannot come on Wednesday, don't worry just call the school office and the teacher will arrange a call to you.

I am sure that you would like to see how your children are enjoying their learning in school. Our website blogs will be updated a couple of times each week so you can share their learning experiences with them.

Reading books

Reading is important and we will continue to send books home each week. Class teachers will outline their reading systems in their welcome letter.

Toast Money

I would be grateful if you could provide your child with the correct money if they would like to purchase toast. We do not have much change in school so it is difficult to pass that on to the child. They can pay for 1 day at 20p or bring in more dependent on how often they would like it eg £1 for the week.

Coats and PE Kit

If I could ensure that you check that your child's uniform, PE kit and coat are labelled to ensure that it is kept with the right child, it would be much appreciated. They do **need a waterproof coat every day**. Hopefully we will have less clothing 'going missing' as children are needing to keep them carefully on themselves or their pegs. Please could your child have an old pair of jogging pants in their PE kit, as we will be holding most PE sessions outside.

New starters for Reception 2021

We are excited to welcome our new reception children in next Monday. The PTFA would like to invite parents for a socially distanced chat straight after drop off to welcome you to our school. But no sooner do our 15 new children start, do we start thinking of next year's cohort. We will be looking at how we can begin to show families interested in coming to Bretherton round our school towards the end of September. If you would like to see the great work that we do, please contact the school office for a provisional date.

Welcome Mrs Glew (the teacher)

We are excited to welcome back Mrs Glew as a trainee teacher in Class 2 on 7th September. We know she will be amazing and hope that she enjoys this next step in her career. We feel proud that we have walked with her on some of this journey.

Covid Recovery Plan

We have created a Covid-19 recovery plan for coming back, which looks at how we will meet the needs of our children. Please have a look on our website 'about us' for more details and if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child, please contact school.

Worship

As a Christian school, our daily act of worship is important and we have missed meeting together in prayer. As we cannot gather together in the hall, class worships will be held with whole class themes and we are hoping to include video worships of our cherished visitors and live/video worship on Fridays so you can join with us to celebrate certificates and birthdays. We hope to commence this next week and we will celebrate

our August and September to date birthdays then and continue weekly. Maybe soon, we can invite our parents and friends back in.

Clubs

Some of our external clubs will commence in the next couple of weeks. If you are interested in joining them, the details are below.

Tennis – Stuart Grice 07709 816951 Spanish – Alison Powell 07920 281935

Each club has its own risk assessment and many of them will be held outside. If the weather results in the session being cancelled, the club organiser will contact parents direct to advise.

Guitar Tuition

We have some spaces available for pupils in Year 3/4/5/6 for the Autumn Term, which take place during the school day on Thursdays commencing 24th September 2020. The cost for the Autumn Term will be £45, which is a greatly reduced charge of just over £4 per lesson. If you would like your child to participate please let the School Office know.

A few little notes

Unfortunately, we are unable to pass out invitations or sweets if it is your child's birthday as we are reducing the items coming in from outside into school. However, you are welcome to pass them out at the end of day in the playground if that helps.

At this early stage, we would ask that children not bring things into school from home for show and tell for the same reason, however we hope to look at how this can be introduced over time.

Just for information, I will be teaching Class 4 on Fridays all day and so may not be able to answer emails or telephone calls until lunchtime or after school. If it is an emergency, please state this to the school office and I will arrange cover and contact you straight away.

We really appreciate your understanding and support as we settle back in to school.

Alison Moxham
Head Teacher



Headteacher: Mrs Alison Moxham

Chair of Governors: Mr T. G. Wilson

www.brethertonschool.org.uk