

Newsletter

5th February 2021

www.bewdleyprimary.co.uk



Questionnaire Responses

Thank you to everyone who responded to the home learning questionnaire – we had a 55% response rate.

94% of parents found the home learning accessible – but please let us know if you are still struggling to get the work due to I.T. constraints.

The main comments that we received were, on the whole, exceptionally positive – thank you for this. There were, however, a few suggestions about how we can improve and we will do our best to take these ideas on board wherever we can.

The overwhelming majority of parents agreed that the videos which have been created by BPS staff have been invaluable for daily home learning.

Several suggestions were in regard to increased contact between pupils themselves and between pupils and their teacher. We are looking at further opportunities to enable this to happen so please look out for invitations for your child to join online meetings. With regard to this, please read the protocols around Zoom meetings below. Additionally, we have included instructions on how to set up a Zoom meeting as you may want to do this between groups of your child's friends for additional social contact.

In this newsletter there is also some information about how to keep your child safe online. Next Tuesday is Internet Safety Day – something we will be doing some extra learning about as well.

A few parents commented on the learning activities becoming more tedious and that it was difficult to keep their child engaged. We realise that this is a challenge at the moment – many aspects of our lives are tedious and 'samey' at the moment and I think we are all getting a bit fed up with it all. We are trying to strike the balance between routine and practice, as this is key for children to deepen their learning and to be able to store knowledge in long term memory, but at the same time to try not to allow things to become too boring. We are looking at ways to inject new ideas and activities into the learning to support engagement, as well as keeping some of the routine lessons that give children a known structure and enable practice and reinforcement - it is worth noting that the lesson that pupils are most enthusiastic about in nearly every class is maths, which is very routine. However, we enjoy doing new things too so we will look for further opportunities to mix things up a bit!

We have had a couple of requests for book collections. We will arrange slots for next week so that children can come and select a new reading book. Additionally, we are setting up a new AR reading system where books can be accessed online and quizzes taken on completion. We will let you know when this is ready to go.

You may have noticed that there are no Well Done Awards this week! We have decided not to do this at the moment because staff have found this increasingly difficult to choose 2 children each week as so many deserve praise and commendation for their efforts – only awarding 2 certificates feels demotivational for the many, many children who could have received a reward. We will try to ensure that we give ‘shout-outs’ and feedback to children who have made a great effort or achieved particularly well each week.

Please do not wait for the next survey if your child is experiencing particular difficulties with either access, the content of the home learning or anything else you think we can support with – let us know and we will do what we can!

Keep up the good work – one week until half term!

Zoom Protocols

It is so lovely to see the children during our Zoom sessions – the register in the morning, during 1:1 and small group sessions and whole class sessions (which as I have said above we are trying to increase over the next few weeks). However, we have noticed a few things that we would ask parents to support us with for future sessions.

- Please make sure that the children are prepared and ready for learning with the correct equipment and having been to the toilet so that they can focus on the lesson and do not have to leave the zoom.
- Please would you make sure that your child is appropriately dressed and in a place that is appropriate for the meeting e.g. in front of a table if possible if they are being expected to record any response.
- Please ensure that there are no other distractions near to them like toys, teddies etc.
- Sessions are usually quite short – please avoid your child having something to eat or drink at this time as this, again, can be distracting and they are not able to give the teacher their full attention
- Please talk to your child about inappropriate calling out and conversations both verbally and through the messaging tool – this should only be used to ask questions about the learning or as directed by the teacher. We want to hear from them but we need to manage this so everyone can speak and hear and that inappropriate messages aren’t being sent
- If your child is talking, please try to ensure background noise is kept to a minimum
- Videos should be kept on during small group sessions so that we can see your child’s engagement and response unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher.
- Please ensure that your child arrives to the meeting on time so that they don’t miss the learning or disturb other pupils. Teachers/TA’s are unlikely to be able to go back over missed learning as their timetable is quite tight
- If a child is behaving inappropriately and it is affecting the learning of others, we will remove them from the meeting. If this happens, we will let you know the reasons for this.



[Supporting your children's remote education during coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-your-childrens-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19)

A list of critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings is available. We know this is a challenging time for parents, carers and children. Remote ...
www.gov.uk

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-your-childrens-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19#what-you-should-expect-for-your-childs-remote-education>

Update regarding last week's letter from Worcestershire County Council

The recommendation in the letter issued last week to test pupils and staff with wider COVID-19 symptoms has now been retracted and amended. In order to detect cases earlier and reduce transmission, testing of children (not staff) with the wider symptoms of COVID-19 and who are in school or an early years setting public health will be piloting the approach for a short period with invited schools/early years settings and recommended to parents. Schools/early years setting will be contacted by Public Health with details of the pilot and invited to take part. A review of the impact of this pilot on detecting cases, reducing transmission and testing capacity will indicate if this can continue to be offered to the pilot schools.

Therefore, it is no longer recommended that children displaying the additional symptoms listed last week are tested as a precautionary measure.

However, they should self-isolate and be tested if they have the three main symptoms:

A new, persistent dry cough

A high temperature/fever

A change/loss in sense of taste or smell



Parking

Whilst we appreciate that it can be very difficult to park in the roads surrounding the school, if all parents could park safely and courteously, when dropping-off or collecting children and avoid causing congestion, this would lower the risk to our children and families. If you do not need to park please use the layby to safely drop off your child/children in the mornings.

The layby remains closed in the afternoon for the safe collection of children especially whilst we all socially distancing

To ensure we create a safe environment outside school, please follow the guidance below

- When arriving by car to school, please leave sufficient time to park safely and legally, alternatively in the morning you can use the layby drop off area.
- Do not park on the double yellow lines, the school keep clear or zig zag markings.
- Do not park half on and half off the road (on the pavement). Parking on the pavement can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments and people with prams or pushchairs.
- Do not park over dropped pavements at an entrance to a house or garage.

From next week, if you do not park safely you will find a notice on your windscreen made by the children asking you to remember their safety.

Thank you for your co-operation and consideration for making the start and end of the school day safer for all our children.



Children's Book Bundles



Parents and carers of children in Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 can request a bundle of up to 6 books on their child's library ticket to collect from their local library. Whether it's picture books for bedtime stories, easy readers for young children starting their reading journey or non-fiction books for fact-finding missions, library staff will put together a bundle of books based on your requirements.

To order a 'Children's Book Bundle' complete the online form or call the Customer Contact Centre on **01905 822722** (Monday - Friday, 9am – 5pm), this service is available at Bewdley, Kidderminster and Stourport libraries.

To reserve books you need to be a library member, if you are not already a member, you can join instantly with our **Digital Library Membership**, go to the link below to find out how to get your membership.

Reserve and Collect Service

Customers can still borrow books throughout lockdown using the FREE Reserve and Collect Service. Reserve books online or by telephone and collect from your nearest library. Customers can also continue to download FREE eBooks, eAudioBooks and eMagazines from the digital library.

Customers can request books via the normal online reservation process or by calling the Customer Contact Centre on 01905 822722.



Get all the latest updates at:
www.worcestershire.gov.uk/libraries

 worcestershire
county council

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20017/libraries_and_learning/1035/reserve_your_library_books



Free school Meals

Has your work / employment situation changed? You may now be entitled to free school meals for your children. **(If you already receive free school meals you will have received notification about these food vouchers – THIS ADVICE IS FOR NEW FSM CLAIMS)**

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak Bewdley Primary School can provide a £15 weekly food voucher to each child who normally receives a free school meal (Please note this is not the Universal Infant Free School Meal provision for Reception and KS1)

Apply online – you can apply on line via the Worcestershire County Council website to see if you are eligible for free school meals – the link is –

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/684/applying_for_free_school_meals/2

If this link does not work – log on to the Worcestershire County Council Website - www.worcestershire.gov.uk

Details about the application process when applying online -

If you receive any of these benefits then you may be entitled to Free School Meals:

Universal Credit provided they have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC
- Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax

1. You **MUST** provide all the information WCC have requested so that they can undertake a benefit check against the relevant benefit departments. **Please list all of your children on this form, even if they attend different schools.** If WCC cannot confirm your entitlement through this process WCC will contact you to provide paper proof of the benefit you receive.

2. If your child/ren are eligible to a free school meal they have the option of not taking this up but **every valid claim will assist your child/ren's school** as it enables them to access the governments pupil premium fund.

3. WCC will send written notification to both you and your child/ren's school with the date provision starts. The date of entitlement starts when WCC receive a valid application and the eligibility is confirmed.

Your claim cannot be backdated and will be reviewed on a regular basis.

If you would like any help / advice from Bewdley Primary School you can email Sally Court or Bev Blank at office@bewdleyprimary.worcs.sch.uk

Spelling Shed Results



Well done to all those who have been on Spelling Shed this week!

Winning class

Blyton

Top Five Spellers

1st – Archie from Blyton

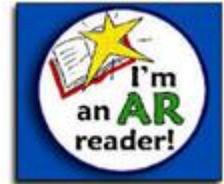
2nd – Ben T from Morpurgo

3rd – Josh from Lewis

4th – Daniel from Lewis

5th – Ellie from Wilson

Accelerated Reader Results



Class of the week

Morpurgo are at the top of the leader board this week with 100% success rate!

Well done to the children who have taken quizzes this week and have been successful.



This week every child in Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 were given a **TTRS challenge to play at least 10 games in studio**. Wow! We have some super-fast Rock Heroes and Rock Legends at BPS! A huge well done to everyone who took the challenge and improved their studio scores. We were especially impressed with how many girls in KS2 took this challenge to show how speedy their times table facts are.

A big shout out to:

Blackman – the speediest class.

Lewis – the class with the most children taking the challenge.

Blyton, Milne and Lewis – the most accurate classes.

NEXT WEEK WE ARE HAVING A WHOLE SCHOOL TOURNAMENT - GIRLS V BOYS!(and staff, you are in on this too!)



Starting well Partnership
EVERY CONTACT SHAPES A LIFE

Have you got a child aged 0 to 19 years and need to talk to someone?

During this unprecedented time, parents and carers are facing new roles and challenges. Parenting and looking after children at home can be great fun, but it can also be very tough too. Remember you're not alone and our teams are here to support you. If you feel you might need some more support, our teams are on hand to help you.

For more information visit
<https://www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk>

Contact:

Brookside Family Hub—01562 827207 (Monday & Friday)

Half Crown Wood Family Hub— 01299 877920 (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)

Email: admin.wyreforest@barnardos.org.uk (Monday—Friday)