



Newsletter

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17th July 2020

End of School Year and Arrangements for September

Dear Parents,

Well it certainly has been a very difficult year for all of us. The one thing that I am so pleased about is that the children appear happy and settled. I think we can give ourselves a pat on the back as parents and school that we have done well by them throughout this period.

I just wanted to give you an update on our plans for next year. I am hoping that restrictions will be relaxed further as we go through the year and much of this will be able to be changed. For now, most of it will stay the same as it currently is. There will be no coming to the classroom doors for parents in the morning or evening, no assemblies and no events where parents are invited into school. We will continue to have additional hand washing and additional cleaning.

These are some of the things that will be different.

- **We would like all Year 1 and 2 parents to send children in with a named pencil case so they can have their own equipment in it. The pencil case should be empty, we will provide the equipment they need.**
- We will be actively promoting and teaching the children the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' idea when blowing their nose and sneezing.
- We will split the playground in half so that Year 1 and Year 2 play in different areas.
- We cannot separate Year R, 1 and 2 completely at lunchtime but we will have all Year R and one Year 1 class in first and then the other Year 1 class and Year 2 in second. This will be consistent every day.
- We will start sending home reading books and other work such as phonics and spellings.

The biggest issue is we need to slightly change the start and finish times for each year group. This is to reduce the number of people coming to the school at any one time. The new times are:

Year R - 8:40 to 3:10

Year 1 - 8:45 to 3:15

Year 2 - 8:55 to 3:25

These are temporary times and as soon as we can go back to normal we will do. Please remember we have Breakfast Club or After School Club if you need. I am sorry but we cannot make any exceptions for individual cases as if I made an exception for one family I would have to do it for everyone.

I hope you all get the chance to have a break and spend time with the children over the summer. I will look forward to seeing all of you in September, including our lovely Year 2's who will be moving to the Juniors.

Take care and please get in touch if there are any questions or if there is anything the school can do to help you.

Matt Greenhalgh
Headteacher

Miss Wilson

It is with very mixed emotions that I am writing to say that Miss Wilson is leaving us at the end of this school year. Miss Wilson has been working towards becoming a teacher for a number of years and next year is the final part of that. Her achievement is fantastic, completing a University degree while also being an amazing full time member of staff. We are so proud of her and it is wonderful that she has got so far. It is, however, incredibly sad for us as a school to be losing a wonderful member of staff who has done so much for the children and the school. We know that she will be fantastic next year and we hope that she can come back and do a part of her course with us. I am sure all of you who know her will join me in wishing her all the very best.

Message from the School Governors

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of what can only be described as perhaps the most challenging term for children's education in living memory. We wanted to write directly to all parents and carers in an effort to convey the gratitude and immense pride we all as governors of Bordon Infant School have in every single one of you.

The lengths you have gone to, to engage with the work teachers set for your children while they couldn't be in school is frankly nothing short of astonishing.

At our half term meetings Mr Greenhalgh has regularly updated us on some of the fantastic work that your children have been doing and how hard they have been working. The engagement with the school and the effort you as parents/carers have put in over this extended lockdown period has played a huge part in helping all the children through this very difficult time.

Some of your children have been able to attend school throughout this time and some have returned during this half term, albeit to a very different structure than was the case the last time they were there. By all accounts they settled in very well and of course were super excited to be back with their friends and teachers.

Some children sadly have been unable to return at all this academic year which was not what we had hoped for. Unfortunately, due to Government guidance on class size we were unable to have not only the rooms but also the teachers available to enable us to open enough classes to welcome all children back to school. Mr Greenhalgh and his team explored every avenue to try to solve this issue as we wanted to have a place for every child who wanted to return, I am afraid that was just not possible.

As a school governor you very quickly learn that a successful school is built on a huge number of things. No individual person or policy is responsible for the success of any school. It is built on a community, a family coming together for the good of all children. By far the largest part of that family is you all and your children. The school has talented and motivated staff and teachers, experts in educating children but without your engagement, enthusiasm and hard work the school would not be the place it is today.

Some of you will be moving on with your children to Junior Schools and we can only hope that the government will find a solution for the next academic year so all children can return to school, continue their education and get back to having fun with their friends.

This school belongs to all of us and you have all played a huge part in getting everyone through this difficult time and we are so pleased you all chose Bordon Infants to send your children to, as without you all we would have no school at all.

Many thanks again.

Brian Larbey