



Leppington, Birch Hill, Bracknell, RG12 7ZX
Headteacher: Michael Dillon B Ed (Hons) MA

Friday, 03 April 2020

COVID19 3rd April Parent Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all continuing to keep safe and well. I wanted to update you on what is happening in school this week and plans going forward.

This week, we continue to support the children of Key Workers and vulnerable children. This week Team B have been in school and again, they have been amazing.

Over the Easter period (excluding Bank Holidays), we will remain open for these children and families only.

Home Learning

There will be no Home Learning set over the Easter holidays (6th April – 17th April), but this will be published again on the website from Monday 20th April. Staff are working on a range of exciting themes for the summer term.

To help you with ideas for Easter, we have updated the Useful Links and Resources area with a vast array of links from English and Maths through to galleries and arts and craft. We are also able to share parents login for PE provision we use in school (REAL PE). This is completely free and offers lots of great activities you can do at home.

Website address: home.jasmineactive.com

Parent email: parent@birchhillp-1.com

Password: birchhillp

In the meantime, if you have any photos on the theme of '**my home workstation/desk**' and **Chocolate** that you would like us to share on social media (Twitter and Facebook) please send them through to the home learning email homelearning@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk Simply put your child's first name as the title.

To support the children's learning and develop new ways of acknowledging work and communicating with teachers, we have purchased Purple Mash. It is produced by 2Simple and many children will be familiar with lots of the games and resources on it. We will email you with more details, including logins early next week. Over Easter, you are welcome to login and simply have a go and play with the activities.

After Easter, teachers will begin to use it to set work. There is also the function to upload your own work and for teachers to acknowledge this.

Secure Area of the website (access to Home Learning resources)

Please remember the login details for the secure Home Learning Area:

Username: homelearning@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk

Password: b1rchh1ll

Please continue to feedback on the home learning material use homelearning@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk – we are also putting a FAQs section to the website and will continue to adapt this going forward.

Finally, please be assured we recognise the pressures parents/carers are under at this time; trying to work from home, manage home learning alongside potentially caring for vulnerable loved ones. We have updated well-being resources with a range of suggestions and links. There are also some links at the bottom of this letter with further resources available from Bracknell Forest council.

<https://www.birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=COVID%2D19&pid=134>

Free School Meals - Free School meal voucher scheme

The government have now launched a free school meal voucher scheme for pupils eligible for benefits-based free school meals only. Children in Year R, 1 and 2 who receive free school meals as part of the Universal Infant Free School meal scheme (UIFSM) are not eligible - unless they are on certain benefits. Earlier today we sent more details of how we are using the scheme to those parents who are eligible for benefits-based free school meals.

If you think you may be eligible for benefits based free school meals, you can check the eligibility criteria and make an online application using the link below. The Local Authority will check your claim and notify us whether you are eligible or not and we will notify you of the result.

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-meals/how-do-i-apply-free-school-meals>

If you have any questions about free school meals, please email secretary@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely,



Michael Dillon
Headteacher

All COVID19 information is at

<https://www.birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=COVID%2D19&pid=134>

There are also a range of services available local via Bracknell Forest Council



<https://involve.community/news/coronavirus/>



<https://health.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/health-at%20home/?medium=email&source=GovDelivery>

<https://health.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/>