



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

Thursday, 07 May 2020

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

### **COVID 19 update**

I hope you are continuing to keep safe and well. The lockdown continues to be a difficult time for all of us and it is very important that we help each other to stay positive.

Teachers and school staff continue to be working hard whether at home or at school supporting children and our families. We have had a fun week at school, including a burst water pipe, which resulted in a few day decamping to The Pines!

### **Easing the Lockdown restrictions and schools reopening**

We are waiting for Sunday's briefing from the Prime Minister regarding details about how the government intends to ease the lockdown restrictions, including opening schools for more children. I am working closely with the Local Authority, with all Bracknell Forest schools and the school governors and as soon as I have more information, I will let you know. Please be assured that safety will be our number one priority in any decision making.

### **Home Learning Pack, Resources and Videos**

We hope that you are continuing to enjoy the Home Learning Packs and the videos are helpful.

Please remember teachers have started to set activities in Purple Mash using the 2Do function. Children can upload work and teachers will acknowledge this. As I have said before, Purple Mash will complement our Home Learning Packs – not replace them.

Please read the online help guide. Any questions related to Home Learning please let us know via [Homelearning@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:Homelearning@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk)

### **Communicating with Children**

This week, teachers have all had their first Zoom Meetings with their class. We are aware that there have been some technical issues but these are teething problems that I'm sure will improve with time. The Zoom meetings are an informal chat so that the teacher can say hello, find out how everyone is and celebrate some of the work the children have done. We would all like to thank parents for their support with this.

It is great to know that you are on hand to sort out technical problems from your end and also encouraging your children when it is their turn to speak.

Similar to this week, we have set up a timetable for the sessions to enable siblings to join their class at different times. We will email/text you an invitation at the beginning of next week and would ask that a parent is in the room with the child to ensure we are covering any safeguarding issues. By logging into the Zoom calls you are agreeing to the Online Meetings Policy.

Timetable for Zoom calls

	AM	PM
Monday		
Tuesday	4J 4S	10S 1M
Wednesday	2M 2HW	3RD 3H
Thursday	6H 6G	5OB 5M
Friday	RC RA	Nurture

To enable everyone to have their turn, the teacher will be in charge of the mute. All children will be muted and when they want to speak, they will put up their hands and the teacher will then unmute their microphone for them to speak. Can you please ensure that you sign into the meeting with your child's name and the camera is working, so that the teacher can see who is there. Remember this is not meant to be a teaching session, but more an informal chat. It is also not a parent consultation meeting. Although we want you to be in the room, the main purpose of the meeting is for the children to share their work, and check out their friends and teacher. We are hoping that this will enable us to keep in contact with the class.

If you have any concerns you wish to discuss with the teacher, you should do this through email to the school.

Please stay safe and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Dillon  
Headteacher