



Weekly Update

22 January 2021

Hello, I hope everyone is well and remaining safe.

I would like to start with saying a few thanks; thank you to everyone for their kind words and messages of condolences for Andy Jones's family. We have done a collection in school to Andy's preferred charity and Friends have made a donation on behalf of all parents. We have passed these on to his wife.

Many thanks also for the cards, flowers, fruit boxes and gifts for staff.

Many thanks to Mr Grimett who organised his colleagues at the Kingsmill depot of Biffa to bring in donations of household items for families in need and brought in a large quantity of items to be distributed. Huge thanks to everyone at the depot who contributed, and to our local Morrison's who have been donating weekly food parcels. We have been able to distribute these to our families.

Remote Learning

I hope you have found the Remote Learning material helpful and accessible. Teachers are following a very similar format to Lockdown 1 - with the focus around English, Maths and Topics work. As you know, one teacher is in school, while the parallel teacher is leading the remote learning from home (with the support of a teaching assistant). This time, we have also included a direct year group email, pre-recorded videos and live zoom sessions. Everything is available on the school website (behind the secure area) and printed versions of the remote learning packs are available from the school office.

There is also access to a wide range of additional resources on the Useful Online Resources section of the Secure Area of the website.

Again, thank you for the positive feedback we have received, but please continue to send us any comments or feedback as we are always looking to improve this offer.



Year 3 have been very creative at home.

Reception have been practising their scissor skills this week by cutting out and making their own creative snowflakes.



Friends

Here at Friends HQ we had our monthly meeting on Tuesday. We raised just over £1400 over all our Christmas fundraising. Which is fantastic news. We will be giving the school our donation towards the new paving in the next week. It looks amazing. So thank you so much.

We are setting up a Zoom quiz for February (more details to follow very soon).

Also, we were discussing ways we can help our school community. We settled on a Zoom coffee morning. Where we can drop in bringing a cuppa and some funny stories from the week. We will advertise as soon as everything is finalised.

The lovely shed we have needs some sealing and some racking. So we will be able to keep more donations and be more organised. As soon as we all get back to school, it is first on our list.

We have sent a message to the family for the member of staff that very sadly passed away. All our thoughts and wishes are with them.

We all agreed what an amazing letter Mr Dillon sent to us regarding home learning. And we asked Mr Hughes-White to convey our thanks. He had a good chuckle at us all telling stories of how it made us cry.

As ever please email us or contact us through our Facebook group should you need our help.

Best wishes, Friends.

DfE guidance

We are keeping up to date with the latest DfE and Local Authority news and guidance. Just to summaries a few key points;

- **FSM vouchers**

We have been emailing FSM vouchers to parents whose children are not at school. If you are having any problems accessing these, please contact Mrs Light

- **Schools Reopening**

Gavin Williamson today said that they hope to give schools and parents, two weeks notice of a date to reopen schools. We are hoping this will be after half term, but no one is sure.

- **Staff LFD tests**

We have received Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) tests and will begin to use from these next week. These are for staff only with the aim is to identify the 30% asymptomatic cases in the community and for those people to self-isolate.

- **Laptops (and SIM card)**

We have received 20 laptops from the DfE and will begin to distribute these next week. We have a number of SIM cards that we will be distributing.

Key Worker & Vulnerable children places (full and review on Friday)

Unfortunately, we have very limited places left and in some years are now full.

We are following government guidelines and have to limit school places, as per our risk assessment. If you would like to make an application please email the school office and we will do our utmost to support you, however, we may only be able to offer you a waiting list.

We review all applications on a Friday for the following week.

Local Support Services

As we have said throughout the pandemic, we fully appreciate the challenges parents face. Please contact us if you need any additional services or your circumstances change.

Below is a link to Local Authority services that might be helpful

<https://bracknellforest.fsd.org.uk/kb5/bracknell/directory/home.page>

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

<https://involve.community/covid-19/>



You may also find this useful:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/remote-schooling-what-do-i-need-know>

