



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

Friday, 05 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

It was lovely to see so many children dress up today for World Book Day and join our ZOOM assemblies. We have included some photos of 'The Masked Reader' at the bottom of this update.

We're all looking forward to seeing the children come back to school on Monday. While we are all looking forward to Monday and getting back to a routine, we do appreciate some children (and parents) may have some anxieties. Please try to reassure your child that any worries or anxieties they may have are normal and that we are all here to support them (and you).

Please see below a few additional bits of information (and a few repeated from last week).

A message from the DfE regarding undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing

Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles. Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are [different ways](#) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests. There is a collection point at Bracknell Sports Centre open daily from 1.30pm to 7pm.
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

PE Days

Remember children can come to school in their PE kits on their PE days. Most of the PE sessions will be outdoors, so please ensure your child has a plain tracksuit.

Year Group	Days
Year 1	Wednesday & Friday
Year 2	Monday & Thursday
Year 3	Monday & Wednesday
Year 4	Wednesday & Thursday
Year 5	Thursday & Friday

Year 6	Tuesday & Friday
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Lunch

Please remember to order online before **midnight the day** before for all children. The menu was sent out last week. Please check emails.

KOOSA Kids will be open for Breakfast /Afterschool Provision and Easter holidays

Bookings for breakfast club can be made by 1pm and for after school club & holiday club by 6pm the working day before. Visit www.koosakids.co.uk or call [01276 21884](tel:0127621884) to find out more. Bookings are now open.

Drop off times

It is still very important that parents/carers keep to the following:-

- Arrive at the designated time for your child's year group
- One adult only to drop off or collect
- Please ensure you and your family are maintaining social distancing whilst waiting
- Adults wear a mask

We will close the whole car park outside school and the community centre whilst drop off and collection takes place. This enables children and families to access the bottom playground safely. Please do not park in the school car park unless you have been given permission.

Please walk if you can, or park in the car park near the scout hut or in South Hill Park.

If you have siblings, please drop off your siblings at the **earlier** time.

Year Group	Time	Gate
Y5/6	8:30 - 8.40	Back Gate
Y3/4	8:30	Bottom playground gate
Y1/2	8:40	Bottom playground gate
Reception	8:50	Bottom playground gate
Nursery	8:50	Bottom playground gate

Pick up times

If you have siblings, please collect your siblings at the **earlier** time.

If you need to speak to your class teacher please contact the school office to arrange a telephone call.

Year Group	Time	Gate
Y1/2	3:00	Bottom playground gate
Y3/4	3:10	Bottom playground gate
Reception	3:20	Bottom playground gate
Nursery	3:20	Bottom playground gate
Y5/6	3:20	Bottom playground gate

Please do not come to the school office if you can give us information by phone or email.

Pick up in the afternoon

All parents collecting must queue in the bottom playground and when called, walk round the site using the one-way system to collect their child. There will be adults to direct to the right place. When you pick up your child, stay in the train tracks and your child will come to you. Please keep the line moving.

If your Year 5 or 6 child can leave school on their own, please email

secretary@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk to let us know. Your child will be released at the appropriate time via the back gate. Adults are not allowed to enter the site through the back gate as we have a one-way system operating.

Residential

We are waiting for guidance from the DfE on when day trips and residential can take place. If the residential cannot take place, all money paid will be fully refunded. We hope to write to parents in Year 4, 5 and 6 next week with more information.

Roundabout Closure

Please see the attached information from the Council about upcoming work that may affect your journey to and from school.

Access to Remote Learning

If your child is sent home due to COVID we will provide access to Remote Learning. This is likely to be in form of learning packs and weekly live ZOOM sessions with a teacher or TA (not necessarily from their current class).

Recording Absence

Please register any absence via the online form available on the website at

<https://www.birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Report+your+child+absent&pid=313>

COVID19 Update.

If your child shows signs;

- ⇒ a new continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- ⇒ a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back 37.8+
- ⇒ a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL (If they are in school, we will send them home).

- Notify the school of their absence.
- They will have to self-isolate for 10 days.
- Arrange to have a coronavirus test.
- Fellow household members and any support bubble members should self isolate for 10 days, from the day when the first
- person in the household becomes ill.
- If any of their household develops symptoms they should request a coronavirus test as soon as possible.
- Inform the school immediately of the test result via COVIDtest@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk
- Parents are advised to follow the latest Public Health England (PHE) guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>



The Masked Reader Photo Gallery



Go to our website for more photos and videos:

<https://www.birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=The+Masked+Reader&pid=593>