

Wednesday 8th July 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last week we received advice for re-opening in September. It is a lengthy document, which is open to interpretation in some areas, so we are currently working our way through, making plans for the start of a new year. I can say for now though, that we will be opening for all children in their own classes bubbles of 30 and we are able to fully reopen Beehive, which I know is good news to many of you! Next week we will put more information out to parents, however in the meantime if you would like to see the publication for yourself, the link is here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Last week myself, Mrs Gale and Mrs Sheldon had 2 successful **YR Parent Welcome** Zoom Meetings. Our usual Welcome Evening had to be moved to a Zoom! It was lovely to meet everyone and welcome our new parents albeit virtually! Our September Reception class is made up of 11 siblings and 19 new families joining our primary school. In Nursery we have 12 new families joining us in September plus 15 remaining with us and moving up into their second phase of nursery.

End of year school reports will be sent via email this year. They are scheduled to be sent to you on Friday, 10th July. They are far from our usual standard, as we are unable to report on SAT test scores, attendance and recent progress this year; they are more of a general report. If you wish to discuss the report with the class teacher please contact the school office who will organise a phone call.

Nursery parents – if your child is returning to nursery class in September please make sure you have contacted Jo Sheldon in Admissions – jsheldon@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk if you wish to increase sessions, add a tag on lunch or swap sessions/days around.

Staff leaving We are saying sad goodbyes to Mr Milne, Miss Kumari and Mrs Hollander this term. We thank them for their commitment to the school and wish them well in the future.

Important notice

The Key Worker group is only open for years 1 and 6 for the final three days of term 20th, 21st & 22nd July.

This is because if your yr 2, 3, 4 or 5 child is going to their class bubble for one day with their teacher, they cannot mix bubbles with the key workers for the other 2 days.

If childcare is a real issue for you, you can opt for your child to stay in the key worker group for the final three days, however they will not be able to join their class on their allotted day. We can't pick and mix!

Please book with Beehive if your child is in years 2, 3, 4 or 5 and you wish them to stay in the Key Worker bubble that week.

Urgent - Free School Meals Deadline Please be reminded that the closing date is **10th July** for applications for free school meals and anyone who applies after that will not get the vouchers over the summer. Applications can be made on the [government free school meals website](https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals). <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>



Over 90,000 children were asked to shield in March, many have recently been un-shielded, however, the anxiety for them and their families is still high. Lots of conditions are invisible, some are not, but as this pandemic has progressed people are beginning to relax their behaviours due to government guidelines changing. Please remember that a proportion of our families are still at high risk of this devastating disease.

A mum from Cornwall is trying to raise the awareness of families in this situation by promoting #ShieldUs, with this logo. You can help her raise awareness by signing the petition, <https://www.change.org/p/uk-parliament-help-get-the-shieldus-logo-a-recognised-symbol-for-those-most-at-risk> and ensure the logo becomes recognised across the country, to protect our most vulnerable.

Home Learners of the Week

Reception

A special mention to Lucy in Reception as I know we're not doing it for the children whose year groups have returned, but Lucy is still completing lots of work at home and is really working hard. **Mrs Gale**

Year 2 Apple

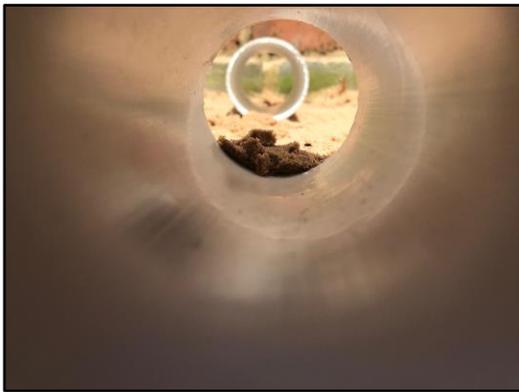
My home learner of the week is Warris. Warris has worked really hard to try and have a go at his home learning and whilst he may not complete all of the work set he sends me something every day. Well done Warris, keep it up. **Mrs Parks**

Year 3 Maple

My learner of the week is for Jack.

Jack has been incredibly engaged throughout the entire home learning process. His work has been to a fantastic level of quality. This amount of perseverance has not gone unnoticed; you have worked so hard and achieved so much. I am really looking forward to seeing you soon. **Mr George**

Also, Henry for a fantastic map which incorporates all of the elements we have been studying this term; coordinates, compass points, symbols and keys. (see photo below) **Mrs Wilmshurst**



Year 4 Hazel

My home learner this week is Giulia, I don't think she has missed a day ever since we closed, for several weeks she was sending me emails from Singapore! Also, she has sent me some lovely letters and notes with her work, just to keep in touch! **Miss Greenwood**

Rupert for an excellent art composition in the style of land artist Nancy Holt. This was photographed excellently and I could instantly tell which artist he had been studying. (See above photo) **Mrs Wilmshurst**

Year 5 Pine

Clara for being very conscientious and working hard on her home learning; even doing Monster Multiplication before 8.30 am! **Mrs Wilmshurst**

All 'Home Learners of the Week' will receive a certificate and a sticker in the post.



Reception Class have been breeding snails! The children and staff are very excited. They have been learning what snails eat and how they form their shells.

Can you see the eggs in this photograph?