

Bishops Down Primary School & Nursery



Parent & Guardian Update During School Closure no.5

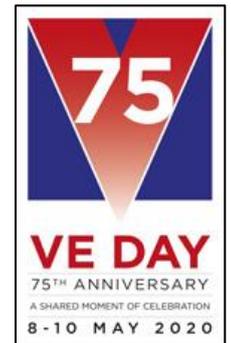
Dear Parents and Guardians,

Firstly thank you to all of those that have returned the parent survey. We understand that some parents are struggling to teach new topics in maths and this is causing some tensions in households. So from next week we will be sending consolidation maths home, so the children will be familiar with the topic. There will be problem-solving questions for those children that need an additional challenge, but there will not be new concepts to teach. Teachers are carefully mapping what topics have been taught, in which year groups, so they know what we will need to teach once school recommences. If you do have any general comments about communication from the school or home learning at this time, please contact your parent rep, who can collate and send to the school office.

This week our key worker children have been enjoying quite a bit of sport, with Mr George and Mrs Tizzard both on the teaching rota this week. Mrs Mankelow and the KS1/Early Years team have been making bunting for VE Day and all of this alongside delivering the home learning tasks that teachers have set. We are keeping the staff and children busy! Mr Beaton is making the most of a quiet school site by jet washing the building and tending to the flowerbeds so it is all ready for when we can return to some normality.

At the time of writing this newsletter we have no idea about the possibility of reopening and in what form this will take. We will be watching the Sunday Coronavirus briefing along with the rest of the nation, hoping to find out what the possible plan could be. We will keep you updated as and when we receive guidance.

With VE Day celebrations this weekend we thought it would be fun for children to try some wartime recipes. We have put a recipe booklet on our home page of the school website, under Key Worker information. When you have made them please sent photos to your class teachers and I hope to include some in next week's newsletter. Mrs Woods has put together some resources/info for parents of children with SEND. You can find them at <https://www.bishopsdownprimary.org/send>



Beehive's Bank Holiday & Half-Term Play Scheme is running for children of Key Workers only, free of charge. We have invited other schools in Tunbridge Wells to use this facility for their local Key Workers, if they cannot provide a service at their school throughout the holiday. Please book at beehive@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk and please state what key worker role(s) you do in your initial email. As with the term time instructions, we can provide breakfast and a light tea but children need a packed lunch.

Nursery Admissions

Please do let any friends, family or neighbours know that it is not too late to register for a Nursery place for September 2020. Mrs Sheldon is working daily and can help with all admission enquiries. This July, 26 of our nursery children will leave us in preparation for them to start Reception at their chosen school in September. Therefore, that leaves many spaces with available sessions all week. If you do know anyone with a 3 year old, or rising 3 year old, please do tell them to get in touch or give them Mrs Sheldon's email which is: jsheldon@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk.



Free School Meals

For any family in receipt of Free School Meals, I hope you've been successfully receiving your vouchers via the Edenred scheme. There have been lots of teething issues with this new system but the DFE and Edenred have been working hard to iron these out. Please email the office if you're still having issues and Mrs Lucas, Bursar will do her best to get them sorted.

Family Support

Ellen Stock is available for any parent to talk to over the coming months if you are finding yourselves in crisis, whatever the reason. She is on hand to listen and signpost to agencies that can support families and individuals at this time. estock@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk.



Key Stage 1 and Early Years created a Spitfire on the playground

Message from the Governors

We celebrate the huge effort that the staff has put in to ensure the children remain positive and ready to return to school. We send staff, children and parents our best wishes and hope to see everyone back as soon as it is safe to do so.