

Bishops Down Primary School & Nursery



Parent & Guardian Update During School Closure no. 6

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this finds you all well.

As I am sure you can all imagine the team at school have been busily reading a growing amount of Government Guidance regarding the proposed opening of schools for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 6 children. We are preparing for all the challenges that Term 6 looks set to offer, but look forward to finally welcoming at least some of the children safely back to school. Please rest assured that all health, safety and hygiene procedures and policies are being carefully thought out. Thank you to all of you that have answered our preliminary survey asking whether your child (if in the relevant year groups) will be attending school from 1st June. This information is key in ensuring that our risk assessments are all relevant. If you do change your mind about sending your child into school, please note that the school office will need to be informed the Thursday before so that staff ratios can be accordingly changed.

This week our key worker children have been enjoying the return of the sunshine, picnicking outside and playing hide-and-seek. In fact, some of the Early Years and Key Stage 1 children did a great job of hiding from me in the outside area! They also went on a kitty cat hunt. The children recorded what they had seen and heard in different ways.



Beehive's 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.