



PRIDE IN ALL WE DO

<http://www.primaryschoolsnorthdevon.co.uk/website>

email: brattonfleming@ventrus.org.uk

Telephone: 01598 710337

26th February 2021

School News

A message from Mrs. Denham

Dear parents and carers

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. We are ready to welcome **all our children back to school** at last and are feeling very excited at the prospect of getting back to some sense of normality on March 8th 2021. We are really looking forward to seeing all the children together again.

In opening school, we have three main priorities:

- The safety of our children and staff by ensuring that we follow health and safety guidance through assessing risks and putting in place control measures
- The mental health and wellbeing of children and the school community in the transition back to school
- Ensuring that all children receive a high-quality education that enables them to thrive and progress in all areas

Staff have been working very hard to provide a safe, welcoming and happy school for your children. We are very grateful to you all for working so closely with us and for all your kind words and support. I want to now update you on some key school procedures which will be very similar to those implemented in the Autumn term.

All children in Rec to Y6 are expected to return to school on Monday 8th March. The risk assessment will be reviewed and regularly updated to mitigate risks of the transmission of the virus and will be placed on our school website.

The information below summarises the main points in the risk assessment. We hope you find this information useful:

When will the children start back at school?

- Children in Years 3 to 6 will start back at school on Monday 8th March, starting at 8.50am and finishing at 3.15pm.
- Children in Rec to Y2 will start back at school on Monday 8th March, starting at 9.00am and finishing at 3.00pm. (These timings are to allow Y1 parents to walk up to Class Bray along the side of school once children in classes Taw and Torridge have walked safely into their classes.)
- Can all parents of children in Class Bray, please walk along the side of school up the steps to Class Bray. Please DO NOT walk (or drive) through the school car park as staff may be arriving in their cars and the mini bus and taxi will be arriving and leaving the car park - it is just too dangerous to allow parents to walk through. However, if any parent has difficulty walking around the side of school (if they have a push chair for example) please contact school and we can make alternative arrangements.

Do they need to wear uniform?

- Yes, we expect all children to wear full uniform if possible.

What can be brought from home?

- Children may bring a small bag to school however, they are not allowed to bring unnecessary items from home. They must only bring a named water bottle, healthy snack, suncream, sunhat (if appropriate) and packed lunch if required

What happens if we use school transport?

- The transport department will provide a full return to school transport.

What measures are in place to reduce mass gatherings of parents and children at the start and end of school?

- Each class will enter school through a separate entrance –
Class Bray, line up outside classroom;
Class Lyn enter the playground and go through the right hand side door;
Class Taw and Torridge line up on left hand side in two separate lines.
Class Taw enter school through right hand side door.
Class Torridge either through back door entrance or fire door. These two classes will enter one class after the other.
- A line will be on the playground from the edge of the school kitchen across to the fence. Please can parents of children in Class Lyn please drop off and wait (socially distanced) for their child behind this line near the school gate.
- Children in Class Taw and Torridge will leave school at the end of the day through the entrances they enter school in the mornings. Therefore, can any parents waiting for their child in these classes please wait (socially distanced) near the area by the bike racks and down to the double school gates. A line will be on the playground from the school building to the wall – please stand behind this line.
- When children arrive in school they will be asked to sanitise their hands and go to their classrooms. They will hang their belongings up in an allocated space in the cloakroom and they will be asked one by one to wash their hands
- Please can we ask parents NOT to congregate on or around the school site before or after school. Please leave a clear wide path for children to walk through.
- All adults must always maintain social distancing to reduce the chance of transmitting the virus.
- Can all adults please wear a face mask whilst dropping off and picking up their children.
- It is essential that all children arrive and leave at their designated start or finish time.
- If parents in Key Stage two want children to walk home alone, please inform the school office of this information by the start of the week.
- When waiting to collect children, parents and other adults must keep any other children close to them and please do not allow them to move away from the adult.
- Please do not send children to school too early as this could potentially lead to unsupervised contact between pupils.
- No parent to enter the school grounds if possible
- The school office will be closed to parents on the whole – so please phone or e mail.
- **Thank you for your support with this.**

Drop off and collection at Breakfast and After School Clubs

- Children who will attend Breakfast or After School club must be dropped-off and collected from the hall side door.
- Breakfast Club opens from 8.00am to 8.50am and costs £4.50 with breakfast and £3.50 without breakfast. After School Club is from 3.15pm to 5.30pm each evening and costs £8.50 or £4.50 from 3.15 to 4.30pm. We require booking and payment at least a week in advance for these clubs, (unless in an emergency) with payment through Parentpay. To book your child's place please either email brattonfleming@ventrus.org.uk or call the school office 01598 710337, **no later than 10.00am on a Friday for the forthcoming week and make your payment accordingly.**
- We have had to implement this new procedure as some parents in the past have owed the school money for this service and built up a large debt to the school. We are sorry to notify you, but if no payment is made in advance, we will have no alternative but to contact you and refuse your child coming to the Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs, unless in an emergency.

What hygiene measures are in place? What are you doing to keep the school clean?

- We have hygiene boxes in each classroom, including cleaning products and equipment. Surfaces are cleaned regularly and all equipment is cleaned in between use.
- Children are expected to wash their hands/sanitise multiple times throughout the day
- Members of staff will be available to support and supervise handwashing where it is appropriate, and we have visual reminders in all the toilets and sink areas about good handwashing.
- We have plenty of tissues and remind children about good hygiene.

- Staff will be wearing face masks in communal areas and in some cases in the classroom

How will you make sure children are socially distant with each other?

- Children have been organised into class groups that will stay with each other for most of their time in school.
- Playtimes will be staggered so that fewer children are outside on the playgrounds with each class having their own designated area to play within. This way, the classes will not routinely mix with each other. They will have their own play equipment in their zone.
- Children will not move around the site as much as they used to however, when they do, they will be encouraged to social distance.
- We recognise that social distancing with the younger children is a challenge so we will remind them regularly about it, but we cannot guarantee that it can be maintained with the younger children. The government guidance states that schools do not need to insist on social distancing with the younger children. We want our children to learn through play and interaction with others.

How will staff social distance?

- Staff will continue to maintain 1m+ social distancing wherever possible. Our staffroom will not be used for staff to congregate and our school office is out of bounds to all if possible.
- We ask that parents do not come into the school building to maintain good social distancing, however we are still available to talk to parents either over the phone or through email.

What will the classrooms look like?

- The classrooms do look a bit sparser than they usually do, this is so that the surfaces are easily cleaned.
- In Years 3 to 6, most desks have been arranged into front facing rows.
- Teachers are planning learning activities that reduce the need for close face to face interaction.
- Adults will give feedback to the children at the adults' level rather than the adult moving to the child's level.
- In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 we will allow a more 'free flow' approach to the provision so that the children can learn through play. They will be allowed to sit on the carpet in small groups but will be expected to distance themselves as much as possible.

What equipment will be available to the children? What will they need to bring from home?

- All children will be given their own pencil case with their own equipment because they are not allowed to share equipment such as pens and pencils.
- Any equipment that does need to be shared will be cleaned thoroughly in between uses.
- Children will be expected to bring a named water bottle to school. This will stay on their desk to reduce movement around the classroom.
- Reading books will be sent home. They will be cleaned after they have been returned and will only be permitted to go back onto bookshelves after 72 hours.

Do the normal rules and expectations still apply?

- Absolutely! We always have very high expectations for behaviour and attitude.

How will you make sure the children settle into their new class and teachers? How are you going to support their wellbeing after such a difficult time?

- The activities for the first week will be planned to support the transition for everyone. We understand lots of our children will not have been in school, so the teachers are planning to take their time to make sure the children can settle in. The children will revisit our school motto, values and expectations including our Building Learning Powers.
- The whole school will support the wellbeing and mental health of all our pupils.

Although we will be making school as normal as we can, there will be number of things that are different, and this is to keep everyone as safe as we can. This includes:

- No large gatherings will take place such as assemblies in the hall – we will have these in classes instead.
- Parents will not be allowed on site so communications will need to be made via the office through email or phone.

What happens if a child gets ill in my child's group?

- No child or adult showing signs of infection are allowed on the premises.
- Staff and pupils are required to have immediate tests if they show symptoms. If a child is sent home with symptoms, we ask parents to arrange a test for the child.
- Any child who displays any symptoms of COVID must be collected immediately. When the child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to our isolation room.

- The adult supervising the child will wear full PPE clothing when dealing with a suspected case; this includes a face mask, face shield/ visor, apron and gloves.

What if my child, or one of our family members, becomes ill?

- If any child in school tests positive for COVID, every child and member of staff in their group will be required to self-isolate for 10 days.
- If a member of a child's household tests positive for COVID, the child and the household members must self-isolate for 10 days. The other children and staff in the child's group do not have to self-isolate.

Everyone's health and safety is our priority and we hope that, by reading this document, all parents and families are reassured that the school staff are taking every possible measure to create a happy, healthy and safe learning environment for all our community.

School will now seem a slightly different place in terms of its organisation, but our standards and our drive for learning will still be there. Our children need support, stability and routine. We expect there will be some pupils who will be nervous and anxious about returning to school after such a prolonged absence from the physical school site. For some, the anxiety may extend beyond the normal fears about returning to school and starting a new school year. All staff will be spending the first few weeks establishing the 'new normal' for children so that they feel secure and confident to be back at school.

We very much look forward to seeing you all on Monday March 8th. If you have any worries or concerns, please contact school and we will do everything we can to support you.

With very best wishes
Susan Denham

School News

- As a school we are always excited to celebrate World Book Day with the children. This year we have been working hard to think of ways to still celebrate via remote learning. Next week all classes will be running book themed activities throughout the week. We will be holding a virtual sponsored read during the week and will hold an Usborne virtual book fair at 7.30pm on Friday 5th March. This will be via Facebook and a link will be sent to you if you wish to join. If you do not have access to Facebook but would still like to order books, please let us know. All monies raised will go towards books for our school. Further details and a sponsor form are attached. Everyone who takes part in the sponsored read will be entered into a prize draw to win some great prizes.
- Here is the link to the Usborne book catalogue if you would like to look at books prior to the event - [Books | Usborne Publishing](#)

Severe weather conditions and the closure of School Procedures for the closure of the school in bad weather.

- We will send out a message on the Bratton Fleming Primary School Facebook page as soon as we know the weather conditions, we will also put a message on the Bratton Fleming Facebook page, Bratton Fleming website page and we will also email you.
- You can register with Devon County Council school closures, alert me -stay up to date. The email link is: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/schools/closure/> They will then alert you if the school is closed.
- Listen to Radio Devon.
- If you are unsure, as a last resort please telephone either Bratton Fleming Primary school on (01598 710337). However, if we cannot get into school to man the phone please try Holywell C of E School on 01271 345908 they may be open to assist you. We will always have staff, if possible, to answer the telephone. We will always try, wherever possible, to remain open. Alternatively, it may be safer to open school later than normal.

Individual families should assess the risk posed by their journey to school and make their own decision. Many families who live close to the school will have a different level of risk to those who have much more complex travel arrangements

**Bratton Fleming School
is a NO NUT Zone**

Dates for your diary

26 th March 2021	Bags2School
1 st April 2021	Last Day of Term
19 th April 2021	Summer Term begins
3 rd May 2021	Spring Bank Holiday
28 th May 2021	Non Pupil Day
31 st May to 4 th June 2021	Half Term
23 rd July 2021	Last Day of Term

PTA News

The PTA are so grateful for the support many of you have given to our new lottery venture. The first draw takes place this weekend, so we'd like to remind you to sign up please! We haven't yet reached our target of 50 tickets sold, but we're not far off and are optimistic it can still be achieved. The more tickets purchased the larger the weekly prize fund will be - so far the guaranteed prize this week is £20. There is also a new prize offer - a chance to win £500 voucher for the Bike Factory! Check out the website for details.

Also a reminder that several of you have signed up but haven't yet completed the final step to purchase a ticket - make sure you complete the process by Saturday in time for the first draw.

We are fundraising as best we can in the current circumstances, and we hope the proceeds will go some way to improving the IT facilities in school for our children. Thank you all!

[Support Bratton Fleming Primary School when you play Your School Lottery - Your School Lottery](#)

[ysl_bike_voucher_marapr2021 - digital.pdf \(yourschoollottery.co.uk\)](#)

Bags4Schools

The Bags2school collection will be on Friday 26th March. A bag will go home with your child/children once they return to school after lockdown. The bags can then be left in the shelters in the bottom playground of the main school building. For each bag of clothes received, a donation goes to our school.

School tea towels

2021 sale! The school tea towels are now on sale for £3 each or 2 for £5. They would make a wonderful Mother's Day present.

Easy Fundraising

Easy fundraising: online shopping & fundraising turns your everyday online shopping into donations for your good cause, at no cost to you. ... Just visit your favourite retailers through the website or app and then shop as normal. Once you've made a purchase the retailer will then make a small donation to your cause to say "thank you".

Our cause is of course, our school. You can either register via the app or the website. You will need to search for our school name and follow the instructions.

Thank you so much for your continued support,
Your PTA Team.

Community News

Welcome back to Pre-School everyone! We hope everyone enjoyed their half term break! This week at Pre-School we have been looking at 'On the farm' where we have made our own cow to milk, had some messy fun with paint and tractors and of course lots of farmyard role play!

We have spent lots of time outside enjoying the sunshine towards the end of the week and exploring the woodlands area, some of us noticed some flowers are starting to grow so we are going to keep a watchful eye on those too!