

Bellfield Primary School



1st December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well and managing to keep warm. The stormy weather has definitely meant a change in the temperature so please make sure your child comes dressed in appropriate clothing. (Hats/Scarves/gloves/jumpers and cardigans are recommended)

We are once again entering a period where Covid-19 cases are on the rise and therefore need to be extra vigilant. As you are aware, we are asking that if you enter the school building that you wear a face covering to help with any potential spread. The same guidelines are being applied as previously; if your child has a new cough/ temperature or loss of taste and or smell then we will ask that you take them for a PCR test and keep them at home until a negative result is given. If you or any other member of the family contract Covid-19, then your child **is able** to continue to come to school, unless they develop symptoms. We ask that your child take a Lateral flow test before coming to school each day, in order to help prevent any potential spread. Children will not be permitted back to school, if they have symptoms, unless they receive a negative PCR result.

We are waiting to hear from the Trust/Local Authority as to if we are still going to be able to have parents attend the Foundation Stage Christmas and Year 5/6 Christmas Productions. As soon as we receive confirmation, a Seesaw and Parent Pay message will be sent out. If the productions are allowed to take place then we will ask that all parents wear a face covering during the performance and take a Lateral Flow test before coming to watch the production.

Attendance

We need your help! Our attendance is now **94.6%** and is well below the National Expectation of 96% or above. We understand that some children have had Covid-19 and therefore this has affected attendance, but some children are missing days for a headache/stomach ache/being tired or feeling a little unwell. Please be aware that if you are late (this means arriving after 9am) then it affects attendance also. When children are late this not only affects their attendance, but more importantly, it affects their learning. Lessons start at 8.45am. Key Stage One children start with phonics/reading and spellings and Key Stage Two children start with spellings/reading. Please help your child and us by ensuring they are at school each day and on time. Thank you

Year group	Attendance to date
Nursery (FS1)	92.6%
Reception (FS2)	95.3%
1	94.1%
2	95.1%
3	93.3%
4	95.4%
5	94.8%
6	95.4%
Whole school Overall:	94.6%

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Important dates

Here are some important dates for the rest of this term

	Term dates
Friday 3rd December	Express Yourself Friday
Wednesday 8th December	<p>EYFS Christmas play</p> <p><i>(9.30am) We will be doing one performance for all Nursery and Reception Children. If your child only attends the afternoon Nursery, we are asking that you send them in the morning for 8.30am and then take them home with you after the performance. If you wish for your child to attend for their usual afternoon session this will be welcomed.</i></p> <p>Tickets will be limited to 2 per child and will go on sale shortly. (You will be informed via Seesaw and Parent pay for when tickets are available) Tickets will be £2 each and paid for via your Parent Pay account. If we have any tickets leftover once everyone has had their 2 allocated, we will inform you that they are available on a first come first served basis. Unfortunately, due to staffing restrictions, we will be unable to provide a crèche; therefore, we are unable to allow anyone under the age of 5 years old to watch the production.</p>
Monday 13th December	<p>Whole school Church visit</p> <p>The whole school will be going to St Michaels church for a special Christmas Service</p>
Thursday 16th December	<p>Year 5 and 6 Christmas Play</p> <p><i>(5.30pm) We will be doing one performance for all Year 5/6 Children. We will ask that children return to school for 5pm in order to get ready for the production.</i></p> <p>Tickets will be limited to 2 per child and will go on sale shortly. (You will be informed via Seesaw and Parent pay for when tickets are available) Tickets will be £2 each and paid for via your Parent Pay account. If we have any tickets leftover once everyone has had their 2 allocated, we will inform you that they are available on a first come first served basis. Children under school age (5 years and younger) will not be permitted to attend the production. (If you are wishing for a child who is 5 years or older to attend then they will count towards the 2 ticket allocation)</p>
Thursday 16th November	<p>Whole School Christmas Dinner Day</p> <p>All dinner requests need to be in by Friday 3rd December please</p>
Friday 17th December	<p>Rainbow Room Fruit and Vegetable Stall</p> <p>Open from 2.45pm for anyone wishing to buy top quality Fruit and Vegetables. If you wish to buy fruit and vegetables, you will be asked to come in through the front of school, into the hall and out through the hall door.</p>
Monday 20th December	<p>Christmas Class Party Day - Children to come dressed in party clothes for the day – Children will be sent home with a list of food items to bring in for the party, all food must be shop bought.</p>
Tuesday 21st December	<p>Last day of term</p> <p>Christmas Jumper/outfit day</p>
Wednesday 5th January	Children return to school

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Current situation regarding Covid-19 and the safety measures in place

As you will be aware, we have seen a few cases in our school community despite our continued extra precautions. We ask that you continue being vigilant and if in any doubt please contact the school office for advice.

- Anyone who has any symptoms of Covid-19 will be asked to stay off school and take a PCR test. NHS Test and Trace will talk over all situations where there is a positive test and advise you of the next steps.
- Anyone who has tested positive will need to isolate.
- If you or anyone else in your household tests positive, your child is still able to attend school.

Please be aware that the following are still the main symptoms.

- **a high temperature**
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste**

Safeguarding

Thank you for your support with 'Road Safety.' The morning drop off and evening pick up has been much safer. Thank you – please continue to keep our community safe by:

- **NOT** parking on the yellow lines directly outside of the school gates.
- **NOT** parking in the garages opposite the school. (There is a sign saying you are prohibited from parking – it would be similar to someone pulling up on your driveway, leaving his or her car and walking off. Please be respectful of the residents, these are their spaces and you should not be parking or pulling up.)
- **DRIVING** at the speed limit, especially around the corners and near to the entrance of the school. Remember, it only takes a split second for a child to run off/slip on the pavement and fall into the road.
- **NOT** pulling up or turning around in the entrance the school carpark – this is the entrance that our Year 5/6 children use to come in and out of school

The community Police officers and Traffic wardens will keep making regular visits to the school at drop off and pick up time, along with Mrs. Cowap and our dedicated Road Safety Warriors.

It is everyone's responsibility to safeguard our school community, therefore, if you are aware of anyone who is parking directly outside of the school gates or in the garages, please make this known to the school. Together we can ensure all our school community is safe when arriving and leaving school. Thank you.

Reminders

Just a reminder that if you have been sent a letter regarding paying your breakfast club or lunchtime fees, please do this as soon as possible. We have many outstanding accounts and these fees need to be paid for in order for children to continue to attend our breakfast club and have a hot school meal.

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When accounts are not paid up to date, this money has to be paid directly from the school budget, therefore taking away from what we can spend of the children's education.

Please ensure that all after school club fees are paid for half-termly in advance. This is so we can ensure the correct number of staff are available for each session and ensure we have the funds to pay the staff for the hours they work. If you have any concerns/queries please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Please make sure that on your child's PE day they come to school dressed in their kit.

This should be:

- black tracksuit joggers
- black hoodie/zip up tracksuit jackets
- yellow or white t-shirt
- trainers

We are starting to see bright coloured tracksuits and labelled clothing and this is NOT part of our school PE uniform.

Thank you for your continued support

Miss Howard

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