

Earls Barton Primary School

Broad Street
Earls Barton
Northampton
NN6 0ND

Telephone:
Website:
Headteacher:

01604 810371
www.earlsbartonprimary.org.uk
Mr D Ribbins



Self – belief

Honesty

Respect

Excellence

Kindness

9th September 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

First of all thank you for helping to make the start of the new year so successful. Understandably there were a few anxious faces on Thursday of last week but there were even more happy ones.

I want to update and remind you of what is happening here at EBPS over the coming months. As you'd expect some changes have been made and I suspect these will be with us for quite some time to come.

Staggered starts and finishes.

These have gone really well. We will continue to review and amend these as we move forwards. Thank you for your support and help with this.

Car parking

To help us maintain social distancing on the school campus staff cars will be parked off site. Barriers will be placed at the bottom of the drive leading up to the main school gates between 8:30 - 9:15 and then between 3:00 - 3:45. This allows parents and children to safely use both the footpath and main drive way in to and out from school.

Class bubbles and hand washing

The children are doing really well in maintaining their classroom bubbles, observing social distancing where possible and remembering to wash their hands thoroughly. They are getting lots of reminders from staff but seem to be coping really well. If you can continue to remind them about this at home that would be great!

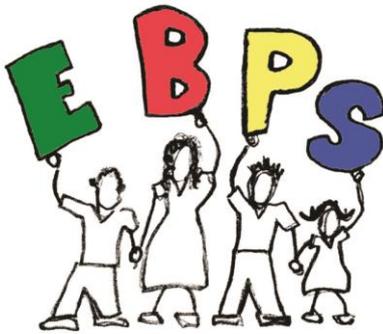
Uniform.

*As per the DfE guidance we are asking you to send your child to school with only essential items (coats, packed lunches and book bags). We will keep the 'trainers instead of school shoes' position for now and when this changes we will give you plenty of warning so you can buy new school shoes for your children **(no boots please!)***

First Aid

Trained staff continue to provide First Aid as and when this is needed and of course will keep you informed if your child has been attended to. Staff may wear PPE when administering First Aid.





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Lunches

Children whose lunch is provided by Kingswood catering will continue to have packed lunches and we will keep this under review. It is my intention to offer hot lunches as soon as possible.

Visitors

Only essential visitors are admitted to the school site for example support agency colleagues like social workers, Education Psychologists and school nurses.

IT

A far more reliable and quicker broadband connection was installed over the summer break. This is a big step forward; we continue to work with a specialist Education IT provider to further improve our IT provision. There is still lots to do, for example improving Wi Fi, up grading pupils' devices and software and carrying out training. We have commissioned a GDPR and safeguarding compliant means for teachers and other key staff to communicate more frequently with parents and children for example in the event of a second lock down. This new facility will also allow us to conduct parent evening appointments remotely - more on this nearer the time. We will continue to provide devices and other IT support for some of our families.

Behaviour

Behaviour in our school is always good although occasionally some children do make mistakes! I have been delighted by how polite, courteous and helpful the children have been since the start of the term. Our Good to be Green system continues to reward good behaviour and it's great that some of the children have already received bronze awards.

Attendance

Attendance so far across the school has been very good with 98% of children in attendance. I will continue to monitor this but I am really pleased that we have been able to welcome so many children back in to school.

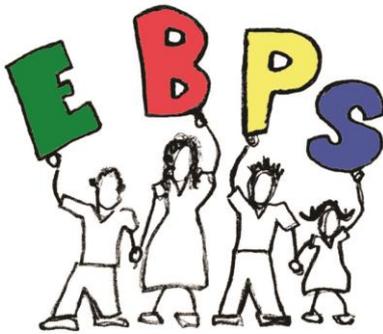
Performances and other events

Sadly, we will not be able to invite you into school to watch performances and assemblies as normal. We are looking at ways that we can 'record' class performances and then share these with parents. Obviously, we will not be able to host Curriculum in Action days either and parent evenings will be done by telephone appointment.

National Tutoring Programme (NTP)

This is part of the governments investment in offering support predominantly for disadvantaged children who may have had limited access to learning during the lock down. We have expressed our interest and have enrolled on the programme.





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Universal Catch up premium

We will be accessing this to support our children. We are waiting greater detail about this but we already have plans for how we can put it to good use.

Recovery curriculum and the wider curriculum

Resources for parents to support the recovery curriculum are available on our web site under the Home Learning tab. These resources are to help address the queries, questions and anxieties that children may have. Over the next few weeks teachers and support staff will be delivering a variety of tasks and assessments such as quick tests and quizzes to look for any gaps in learning, and of course, the curriculum will flex to address these. We are committed to continue our offer of a broad and stimulating lessons across the full breadth of subject areas.

School to School support (S2S) and 5 Wells Development Centre

We continue to be fully involved with both 5 Wells and School to School support. These allow us to share good practice and make the most of good quality training and resources. Most of this collaborative work is taking place remotely and we continue to benefit from our involvement.

Communication

We will continue to contact you through known telephone numbers (please make sure we have the most current numbers for you) and Parent Mail. If you have any questions for us please ring or email the school as normal. As and when I have relevant updates from the Department for Education I will pass this on to you.

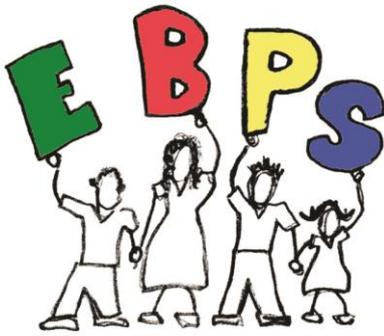
Books and work sent home

The children's work books will stay in school to reduce the risk of spreading Covid. Class teachers will continue to offer a combination of verbal and written feedback in books. If teachers send work home please make sure you leave this for 48 hours before handling it as per the DfE guidance.

To close, we have been delighted how well the new year has started given the length of the lockdown. Your help, support and understanding is really appreciated!

Mr D. Ribbins
Headteacher





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