



# NEWSLETTER - 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE

Dear Parents

## Lunch Boxes

**Reminder-** Please can parents limit the amount of food provided in their child's lunchbox, the children want to eat everything and this means that they don't get chance to go outside at lunchtime. Can we also ask if you are sending in grapes with your child that you cut them in half. Please do not send nuts or any food containing nuts.

## Home Learning

All of the suggested planning for home learning was updated yesterday under the year group tabs. You will also find an update to the Explorer's project, this week the continent is Asia.

## School Games Challenges

The School Games Challenges are still taking place and we would like as many of you as possible to represent TEAM BOLDMERE! You can sign up for the School Games at: [www.sgochallenge.com](http://www.sgochallenge.com) Our school code to enter is: WILSON Please see the aforementioned website for any further information. Once you have completed a challenge, you can submit your results online; this will form accumulative results for Boldmere Schools as well as giving an individual result. We hope you enjoy the challenges. Good Luck!

## Summer Reading Challenge 2020...

The nation's most popular reading challenge has now been launched. You can find details of this at <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>. There is also a link to these resources on our school website under 'Home Learning' □ 'General Home Learning Resources and Ideas' □ 'English'.

## School Book Explorer Challenge

Well done to those of you who are continuing with this, please keep your explorer log sheets and rewards will be awarded in September.

## Reception And Nursery September 2020 Intake

We will be sending out welcome letters and information packs to all of our new Reception and Nursery children next week. They will be sent home via sibling's currently attending school, hand delivered if possible or posted.

## Boldmere Infants Book Club

We hope the children are still enjoying the bedtime stories read by staff at the Infant and Nursery School. As of this week, stories will now be sent out 3 times a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday). We hope to continue with the stories for the rest of the term.

## Summer Term Milk Payments

Before school closed at the end of March we received some payments of £12.98 via Parentpay for purchase of Milk for the children for the Summer term. As the children have not received milk due to the school closure, this money can be refunded or alternatively it can be donated to School Fund. Can we ask you to let us know either way by telephone or email:

[enquiry@boldmere.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@boldmere.bham.sch.uk) by **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020** at the latest. If we have not heard from you by this date we will assume you would like to donate the money to School Fund. Refunds will be activated by the end of the Summer term where they are requested.

## Baby News:

- Congratulations to Bruce and Kerema Hyatt-Halfpenny on the birth of their son Tao. Mrs Halfpenny is really enjoying being a grandmother. Welcome to the Boldmere family Tao.



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## Correspondence With School

During this unprecedented time, we would like to reassure our school community that we are aware of the struggles and pressures that parents and children are facing whilst school is not open to all pupils. It certainly is a very frustrating situation for us all.

Mrs Kenny and I are receiving regular updates and guidance from the Government and the Department for Education, on the re-opening of schools. We also take into consideration the essential guidance from Unions and Birmingham City Council, which in turn help to inform us of the decision making and planning required in relation to our school provision. We liaise with Governors and the Chair of Governors regularly, as well as meeting with our Senior Leadership team and Head teachers from other local schools. All plans that we put in place take a huge amount of time and effort to organise and sustain.

I would like to stress that every one of us working at Boldmere want children to return to school as soon as possible, but only when **guidance suggests it is safe to do so for all staff, and pupils alike**. There is still lots of ambiguity within the guidance, and as of yet our educational profession has still not been presented with a strategic plan of what the anticipated return to school may look like in September. Obviously this information is essential for our planning, and the circulation of this information is something that is again beyond our control.

The reason for adding this correspondence in today's newsletter is that school are receiving an increasing number of emails from parents which up till now, we have responded personally to. These emails are offering suggestions as to how we can facilitate more contact with children, how we can increase the numbers of children in school or indeed how we could use other local buildings for face-to-face teaching. Whilst we appreciate that parents are trying to be helpful, the implications of some of these suggestions are not fully understood by those not working in our profession. It is not the case for example, that retired teachers can set up learning for Year One children in the local library. There are endless preparations that would be needed to facilitate these proposals, not least of all safeguarding and health and safety requirements.

Mrs Kenny and I are becoming increasingly overwhelmed by the volume of correspondence we are currently receiving, and subsequently responding to on a daily basis. As such, we have made the decision that from today, we will not be replying personally to parental emails on the subject of home learning or the return to school. The time it takes to do so, is detracting from the essential aspects of school leadership that we need to be focusing on during these prolonged challenging times.

Please understand that we always value any correspondence/communication from parents/carers, and whilst we know the importance of working together, we are requesting that parents think carefully before sending emails to school. We are following Government advice at all times, and are guided by their recommendations.

Please be assured that we are doing our utmost, within the current staffing capacity, to ensure that provision is the best we can make it for all children.

Thanks again for your understanding and continued support.

Mrs S Kenny  
Head of School  
16.06.2020