



Dear Parents/Guardians

No 10
17 November 2020

Thank you!

To all of our Boldmere community who continue to follow government guidelines and adhere to our school policies- a massive thank you. This continues to be a very challenging time. As a school, we truly appreciate you working with us to keep our children, parents and staff as safe as possible.

Polite Reminder

Under no circumstances whatsoever, should anyone be parking, pulling up or stopping on the yellow zig-zag lines directly outside the school. These yellow zig-zag markings along with all the signage, clearly state that this area is a no stopping zone.

It is very disappointing to see a small minority of parents/carers stopping on these markings to drop children off. Please do not stop on these markings, they are there to ensure children and pedestrians are safe.

Parking Issues

Once again, despite the introduction of staggered start and end of day times, we find ourselves with the familiar problems of parking when dropping off and picking children up from school. This is also incredibly disappointing to see and we hope that there is an improvement soon.

It takes no time at all to park considerately and to think of others. Parents/carers should not be double parking, which then leads to obstruction and the following traffic has to drive around the offending vehicle, which inevitably means they are then closer to children and pedestrians. This, of course, is dangerous.

We also find it staggering to observe that a small number of parents suddenly stop in the middle of the road and then their children proceed to get out of their car in the road, which we find difficult to comprehend.

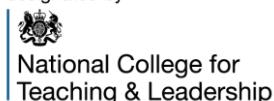
Please be considerate of the safety and needs of others when driving to and from school.

Many thanks in advance of your cooperation on this matter.

Drop off and Pick up Times

To enable us to continue to keep the entrances as clear as possible, we ask that parents/guardians keep to their designated times for arrival and for picking up their child/children. These arrangements have been in place for some time now and will continue to be during the ongoing pandemic. We need your help for us all to stay safe.

National Teaching School
designated by



This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

Staff Absence

At the time of writing, we have 11 staff across both the schools absent. Once again, having so many staff absent poses additional problems and issues in school that we work incredibly hard to mitigate. We are grateful for your co-operation and support during the continued challenges.

The staff are working relentlessly to ensure that the children's needs are being met and we are absolutely delighted with the wonderful way that the children continue to conduct themselves in school. They really are a credit to their families and should certainly be praised for their efforts too. Thank you Boldmere!

Free School Meal Vouchers

Free School Meal vouchers for the October half term have now been provided by Birmingham City Council, via a company called 'Sodexo'. If your child is eligible for free school meals, you will be receiving FSM vouchers via Parentmail this week.

Attendance Expectations

This is a reminder that attendance continues to remain statutory, despite new national restrictions which came into force on 5th November. Below is the guidance from the Department of Education;

It is vital for all children to attend school to minimise, as far as possible, the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development. Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance has therefore been mandatory from the beginning of the autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance apply, including:

- **parents' duty to secure their child's attendance regularly at school (where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age)**
- **schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence**
- **the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct**

Events

Anti-Bullying Week

This week we are taking part in anti- Bullying week 16th-20th. We are using the theme 'Cool to be Kind' to link it to our value Kindness. Yesterday our assembly focussed on bullying, age appropriately, and children will continue to discuss with their class teacher throughout the week. For more information and advice please visit anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk.

Diary Dates

- **26 November – Nasal Flu Immunisation – yrs 3 to y6 pupils**
- **18 December – Break up for Christmas holidays**

Nasal Flu Immunisation – Thursday 26 November 2020

A reminder that Thursday 26 November 2020, the school nurse team will be in school to administer the flu nasal spray.

Poppies for Sale – Remembrance Day

Thank you for your support regarding the above. All money donated for poppies will be forwarded to the Royal British Legion.

Children in Need

Many thanks to everyone involved in organising our Children in Need Day last Friday. We have raised so far a total of £1,104.35. Thank you so much for all your support. 5J raised the most money and will get the chance to soak a member of staff as a reward!

We are also pleased to advise you that Lydia in year 4 raised an amazing £326 by being silent for 12 hours. Well done Lydia – a great achievement.

If your child has done something similar, please let us know.

Residential Trips:

Kingwood Residential – Year 6

We are continuing to liaise with Kingswood Centre and will advise parents/guardians as soon as we have any further information.

Whitemoor Lakes – Year 4 – February 2020

We have no further information at this stage to provide parents/guardians of children who have been allocated a place on the residential trip to Whitemoor Lakes. We are in touch with Whitemoor Lakes and will assess the situation at the end of this term/beginning of next term.

Music Lessons

We continue to liaise with the music service and the private music teachers regarding music lessons in school. We confirm there will be no music lessons in school during this term (Autumn Term 2020) but we hope to be able to accommodate these lessons during the Spring Term 2021. Once we have further information, we will advise parents/guardians/pupils via the newsletter.

Boldmere's Best Certificates

This week's class certificate winners are listed on the attached sheet

Annexe design competition - reminder

We have already received some fantastic entries (thank you!) so far. The deadline has been extended to Monday 23rd November.

Covid-19 Information update

Please continue to visit the school website and any Covid-19 updates can be found there.

Busy Bodies News:

October late collection fees

Unfortunately due to Staff absence at Busies, we have been unable to check the signing out sheets or debit accounts for October's late collections these will be done over the next two days and ParentPay accounts debited.

November Fees

All November fees have now been debited to your ParentPay accounts. Please check and make your payments. All childcare vouchers received up until 16th November have been credited to your accounts. We have made all the necessary debit adjustments/amendments to fees for children/classes that were isolating, or whose parents resumed working from home due to the second lockdown. We now know that class 1B will not be returning until Tuesday 24th November, so any children booked into BB on Monday 23rd November will be re-credited for those hours.

December Booking forms

December booking forms are now available to download from the school website, or from Busies staff. Please ask us when dropping off or collecting your children. **All forms to be returned by Wednesday 25th of November** to ensure your child/ren can be accommodated for days and times requested. Capacity still remains limited within our setting due to staffing and bubbles. We have accounted for the first week back in school after the Christmas holidays on your December form, please ensure your ParentPay account is clear before submitting your December booking requirements thank you. We have not attached January's form to December's this year, this we feel will better support our parents into the New Year with the current uncertain situation. As in all our Newsletters, please contact us if we can help or support you further.

Helen & Jayne and the Busies Team

Reminder email address for any correspondence and attachments of booking forms:-
khyatt@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

PTA News

Can you please help us try and win £1000 for the Schools. All you have to do is click on (or copy and paste) this link https://www.movementforgood.com/12days/index.php?cn=1053697&ct=education_and_skills#nominateACharity

'12 Days of Giving' are rewarding the most nominated charities with £1000. Once you click on this link the Boldmere PTA details are already inserted for you to nominate. Please can you take 20 seconds to fill in your details and press submit. The more nominations, the better chance we have of winning so please send to friends and family and get them to nominate us.. thanks for your help.

Bags2School

See attached poster regarding the above fundraising scheme. We are giving you plenty of notice to sort out any unwanted but good quality men's, ladies' and children's clothing, paired shoes etc. The collection date is in January 2021. Please DO NOT send any bags into school. There will be a drop off area on the school site. We will remind you nearer the date of where to leave the bags.

Mrs K Welch
Acting Head of School