

The Federation of Boldmere Schools

Cofield Road · Sutton Coldfield · B73 5SD

Our Vision: The Federation of Boldmere Schools empowers all children to embrace learning; achieve their personal best; and build their social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Dear Parents/Guardians

26th May 2020

We hope all of our school community, families and friends are continuing to stay safe during the ongoing challenges that we are all faced with at this present time. We also hope that you are able to enjoy half-term this week.

Re-opening For Nursery, Reception And Year 6

Requests for Nursery, Reception and Year 6 provision have all been accepted. Maximum class sizes to ensure we are operational have been reached. Numbers are now capped to ensure we can meet safety requirements in each class “bubble”, whilst also maintaining our existing provision previously agreed for keyworkers. Further information will be sent next week to all parents who have requested a school place in these target year groups.

Children’s Well-Being

As we enter week ten children may have lots of questions and worries. Please take a look at our well-being page under the Home Learning section. As well as some activities to help enquiring minds there is lots of guidance on how we can support our children during this time. Please take a look at our SEN tab for further resources and guidance.

Bedtime Stories

We continue to send video links of staff reading stories at regular times during the week. Some parents have reported that the links are ending up in the 'junk' section of their emails so double check!

Reading at home

We hope that you are enjoying listening to the bedtime stories and that you are trying to read as often as you can. We cannot re-iterate the importance of daily reading enough and therefore we want to take this opportunity to share a resource that we have added onto each year group’s learning page. This is a fantastic website which we have free access to during this period. It is called ‘myon’ and can be accessed through this link, or on your child’s home learning page on the school website. <https://readon.myon.co.uk/>. There are over 7000 books for all ages – it is effectively a library in your own home! It is particularly good because you have the option to hear the books and new vocabulary is highlighted with a link to an easy online dictionary.

Also ...

Don’t forget that you can still be working on our Book Explorers challenge that we launched to celebrate the school library’s 40th birthday in Book Week. If you can’t find your sheet, they will be added onto your year group’s home learning this week.

And for something extra, why not take part in our secret reading challenge ...

While you’re reading at home, it would be lovely to see some of the secret/special places that you read your books. Maybe you have a special reading den. We’d love to see photos of you reading in an unusual place. Tweet your photos by Friday, 29th May.

And finally ...

Reassurance

Please can we take this time to reassure you and stress that the resources we are providing on the website are suggested activities and not an exhaustive list that you must work through. As we enter a further week of school closures we are fully aware of the challenges that the current situation

presents. The children's wellbeing is our priority and we know from telephone conversations recently that some families are finding these times difficult. As many of us are parents ourselves we are finding that we are observing happy, cooperative children one day and then awkward, non-communicative children the next! There are no rules during this unprecedented time except to say that our wellbeing should dictate our daily expectations as far as home learning is concerned. If your child is having a 'good' day then try home schooling but if this is not the case, then go outdoors, play, bake, or get crafty together!

Infant Children Violin Reminder

A reminder that the summer term tuition fee of £80 is now due for the children who take part in Violin lessons. Payment can be made via ParentPay.

Junior School Information:

Parents/Carers Of Year 5 Children - Reminder

We have been advised that registration for the optional entrance test for admission to the eight Grammar Schools in Birmingham in September 2021 is now open. The deadline for registering for the test is **4pm on Friday 26 June 2020**.

Parents can find more information about the test and can register their child for the test by visiting www.birminghamgrammarschools.org

Children only need to sit one entrance test to be considered for any of the grammar schools in Birmingham. The entrance test for September 2021 entry will be held on Saturday 12 September 2020 (this may be subject to change depending on the COVID-19 situation).

FAO Year 3 parents/guardians (Year 4 in September 2020) - Whitemoor Lake Residential Trip February 2020

A final reminder that if you wish your child to take part in the above residential trip, please make your deposit payment via ParentPay by Friday 29 May 2020. Those children who are eligible for pupil premium funding will have received a separate letter in March giving details. However, those parents/guardians whose child is eligible for pupil premium funding must ensure that the junior school office staff are aware that they wish their child to take part in this residential trip.

Music Lessons – Summer Term Payment

For those children who are receiving 1:1 music tuition online, provided by the Music Service, the cost for the summer term will remain at £80, guaranteeing a minimum of 25 lessons during this academic year. If your child has not taken up the offer from the Music Service, you will need to pay £40 for the summer term, as the school are being charged 50% of the cost for this term by the Music Service. Please check your ParentPay account.

We also take this opportunity to remind you that the school requires **half a term's notice**, in writing, should your child not wish to continue with their lessons at any point during the academic year. Therefore, if your child does not wish to receive music lessons in the Autumn term 2020, please advise the school office by **1 June 2020**.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Glasgow
Executive Head Teacher

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Kenny
Head of School (Boldmere Infant & Nursery School)

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