

# 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

2 June 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.

### **Important Information**

Later today, parents of children in Nursery, Reception and Year 6 **who are returning to school on the 8th June**, will receive a further parentmail containing useful information (including Question and Answer) for the reopening of classes. Please read this information carefully.

Please **do not** send your child to school unless you requested a place on 18th/19th May. All places have been allocated to these children **only**. We are not able to take any more children into the Nursery, Reception or Year 6 classes that have been allocated.

We are genuinely looking forward to welcoming the targeted and identified children back to school. Plans have been put into place which will be explained in the additional correspondence and will be sent to those identified as returning.

All staffing has been carefully planned against those who have requested a place and we are operational for those pupils **only**.

Many thanks for your continued support and understanding during these ongoing challenging times. It is very much appreciated!

### **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!

### **Home Learning**

All year group home learning pages have now been updated. These updates will now be on a weekly basis- available every Monday. Please check under the Explorer Project tab for the new continent, this week it is Africa.

We will also be attaching a letter under each year group's home learning tab. These are to be shared with children who will continue home learning. This is to acknowledge and thank them for their hard work.

### **Well-Being**

Under the well-being tab we have added new links to websites and information which offer advice for parents and carers on supporting children and families experiencing bereavement, supporting children's transition back to school (whether it is now or in September) and supporting children during lockdown and school closures.

We will continue to update this page regularly.

### **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 - 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.

### **Junior School - Parents/Carers Of Year 5 Children - Reminder**

A final 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](http://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).

### **Boldmere Inclusion Base (BIB)**

We just wanted to let you know that we have certainly not forgotten about our amazing children from our Inclusion Base. Further correspondence providing parents/carers of children in the BIB with an accurate update, will be circulated later this week. Many thanks for your patience and continued support as we are aware how frustrating the current situation has been.

### **Summer reading challenge 2020...**

The nation's most popular reading challenge, which engages over 700,000 children each summer, launches in an all-new digital format this year. The launch takes place on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 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'.

From Friday, there will be a range of reading activities for children of all ages. The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge 2020 announced last week the initial line-up of stars in children's publishing and entertainment who have pledged their support for this year.

The star-studded list of ambassadors includes: CBBC presenters Sam and Mark; children's author Jacqueline Wilson; comedian and TV presenter Paul O'Grady; Waterstones Children's Laureate Cressida Cowell; comedian and author David Baddiel; TV adventurer Ben Fogle; former Blue Peter presenter and children's author Konnie Huq; performance poet Joseph Coelho and CBBC's Hacker T Dog reunited with Radio 1's Katie Thistleton.

They are joined by children's authors including Rob Biddulph, Philip Ardagh, Guy Bass, Steven Butler, Gareth P Jones, J M Joseph, Jennifer Killick and Silly Squad illustrator Laura Ellen Anderson, all of whom have books in the official Silly Squad book collection. The list goes on...!

Happy reading everyone!

### **Pause – Drop In Mental Health Facility for children and young people – NHS funded**

This is a free drop in mental health facility and right now has lots of spare capacity. It is open access for young people (12 and above) and all carers/teachers/parents concerned about children and young people. Details regarding this service will be uploaded onto the school website shortly.

Yours sincerely

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Mr C Glasgow  
Executive Head Teacher

Mrs S Kenny  
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