



**WILLIAM BARNES PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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## February 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

January seems to have flown past yet again. Thank you so much for all your support and understanding with our recent covid cases. It is so important that we keep our school open for all as much as we can. We will continue to ask all parents to wear masks on the premises and when coming into school due to the number of cases. Key Stage 2 will remain in bubbles at the present until the numbers drop.

Please continue to follow the guidance we have sent out if you have a positive LFT. If your child is positive but are feeling well in themselves and would like to join the class learning on-line then please can you email their class teacher on their Year group email.

### Staffing

We welcome Mrs Emma Roake to full time position Reception class Teaching Assistant and Mrs Alison Baker as part time Reception class Teaching Assistant. Lisa Welch will remain as our ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) for Key Stage 1 as well as her new Role as Admin Assistant.



### Weather

The weather remains cold and wet so please ensure your child has a coat every day. Also please listen out on local media and check <http://mapping.dorsetforyou.com/> closed services for any possible school closure. We will text all parents before 8.00 a.m. if school is closed. To this end, please ensure that there are current telephone numbers held in the school office so that you can be contacted either if school is closed early in the morning or if we need to close school earlier than 3.15 p.m.

On icy mornings the car park and driveway can become very slippery so please do take care. We will put grit down as much as possible. Please can adults ensure the children do not slide on the ice.

### Surveys

Following our recent travel survey I have updated the Travel Plan which will go to the Governors in March. Many of you continue to be concerned about the narrow pavements and I would urge you to contact the Local Council with your concerns. There was overwhelming support for our barrier. As you are aware the barrier is now in place and this has ensured the safety of our children.

Following our recent accessibility survey for parents of children with SEN, I will be updating our accessibility plan and will discuss with governors in March. This will then be posted on our website.

## **Rising 5s**

Following the GDPR act we cannot contact prospective parents for September 2022 before a place is accepted at our school in April. We would still like Rising 5s to commence in the summer term. The children who are starting with us in September 2022 are invited to come into our Reception class for an hour, 1.10 - 2.10 p.m. every Tuesday afternoon, covid restrictions permitting. If you know of any parents who have given William Barnes as their first choice school and do not attend Stepping Stones, then please ask them to contact the school office for details.

Please be aware that when a child leaves our school and when year 6 move on to the High School we pass on all children's records including copies of letters, relevant emails, meetings, concerns. If you have any questions, please come and see me to discuss.



## **Policies**

Just a reminder that our Behaviour policy is published on our website. We have updated the policy with our attachment training. Mr Newman and I have attended training called Dorset STEPs and we will be further training staff and updating the policy. Also a reminder that I am the e-safety champion, anti-bullying lead and Designated Safeguarding Lead in the school. Mr Richard Hull is the Deputy Safeguarding Lead.

We have a critical incident policy where if we need to leave the school building we will go to the Exchange. Part of our critical incident policy is, if necessary, to congregate in the school. We hold a practice as well as our usual fire practice.

## **Family Learning Week**

We would like to hold Family Learning Week entitled World of Work in June, we will send out further details after Easter but we are hoping we will be able to have a range of visitors by then.



## **Mathletics**

From time to time children may find they have a problem with their Mathletics account. For example, recently in year 6, several children found that even though they had completed activities at home, points were not registering with Mr Hull's account. Other issues can involve logging in and certificates not being registered. If you have any issues with Mathletics at all, there is a dedicated helpline to assist parents and schools. The number to ring is 0117 370 1990

Mr Hull recently spoke to the helpline and found them extremely help. The staff at Mathletics suggested that he make the number known to parents.

## **Leeson House**

Year 5 pupils will be going off for their residential visit to Leeson House on 9<sup>th</sup> March accompanied by Mr Hull. We wish them a fantastic time and look forward to hearing all about their adventures when they return. Consent & payment are completed online through Parent Pay. If there are any concerns or problems, please contact the office.

## World Book Day

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March is World Book Day and all children are invited to dress a potato like last year. You will receive more details nearer the time.



## Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is on 18<sup>th</sup> March. This will be non-school uniform and a donation.

We are still not sure what events can go ahead, but we will inform of any changes.



## Stepping Stones

Stepping Stones are now taking bookings for the 2022/23 academic year. If anyone would like spaces can they contact us for a booking sheet. Contact Telephone Number: 07778336928.

I would like to wish you all a wonderful half term when it comes. Hopefully; March will bring better weather. Thank you all once again for all your support.

Karen Wrixon  
Headteacher

## Dates For Your Diary

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February - 25<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term Begins  
Parents Evenings - Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - World Book Day  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March - Leeson House  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March - Red Nose Day  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Family Learning Week - World of Work