

Friday 16 October 2020

Dear Parents

Having almost got all the way to half term without any cases of coronavirus, yesterday brought us some challenges on this front, as you will be aware. On one of the several calls I had to the DFE yesterday, the message I was given was that we had done very well to have got this far, without a case. Although intended to be a positive message, this did not alter the feelings we are all feeling, that the virus is really not far away and we really all need to be as careful and vigilant as we possibly can to protect our School community.

Thank you to all parents for your supportive messages and best wishes for our staff who are currently feeling unwell. We wish them both a speedy recovery to full health and a safe return to School after half term.

Half term Holiday

If you are planning foreign travel, please ensure you adhere very strictly to the Government guidance on quarantining upon your return to the UK.

Queens College Prep School (QCPS)

I received an invitation from QCPS to join their virtual open day last Friday. It was a welcome opportunity to meet the new Head, Mrs Laura Hall, and to gain an insight into her vision for the future of the School. We look forward to meeting in the flesh, at some point in the future. If you are considering QCPS, please get in touch.

Channing School Admissions

I have received communication from Channing, this week, to remind us that the closing date for applications for September 2021 entry is Wednesday 6 November. The school is holding the last of their 4+ virtual open days on Tuesday 3 November if any parents are interested [Channing School – Virtual Open Day Events 2020](#)

St Anthony's Boys School

I was delighted to have the opportunity to meet with Mr Richard Belie earlier this week, who is the new Head at St Anthony's Boys School. Broadhurst has a long standing strong relationship with St Anthony's and it was lovely to have the chance to speak to Mr Berlie about the School and to catch up on how he and his new Reception boys from Broadhurst, are settling in.

Art Folders and Academic Work

Children will be bringing home their art folders today. We hope you enjoy sharing some of the lovely pieces the children have created over the last few weeks. Academic work will be kept in school and will be sent home at the end of the school year.

I wish you all a lovely half term holiday. We look forward to seeing the children again on Monday 2 November.

Best wishes

Mrs Sylvester

Curriculum News from Miss Belzer

Screen-Free Games

Looking at screens for extended periods of time impact on children's intelligence, sleep, mental health, diet, behaviour and vision. Interventions to reduce screen time have a better success rate if introduced early.

Simple board and card games are a great tool for spending quality family time together. They provide an opportunity to strengthen relationships and the sense of belonging. This chance to interact as a family in a positive way strengthens communication, cooperation and social skills.

Simple games can help your child learn colours, shapes, counting skills, letters, orientation and direction. Simple games support your child to develop:

- hand-eye coordination and dexterity
- language and communication skills
- an increased attention span
- teamwork and an understanding of taking turns
- resilience when things do not go their way
- problem solving and decision-making skills
- concentration and memory
- patience and determination

Board games help to develop many visual, perceptual, cognitive and thinking skills. For example, moving counters teaches spatial awareness. This helps to train the higher functions of the brain. Fine motor skills and good hand-eye coordination are key to handwriting and other areas that require dexterity and precision, including typing. Games also involve clear rules, supporting your child's ability to follow instructions.

We hope you will find time to enjoy some simple games at home as a family over the half term.



Diary Dates:

TERM DATES

Term Starts:

Thursday 3 September

Term Ends:

Thursday 10 December

Half Term:

Monday 19 October –
Friday 30 October

Children In Need

Friday 13 November

B
BROADHURST
School

Class 4 News

Class 4 have had an 'out of this world' week exploring all things space. We have been rocketing off to the moon in our own spaceship in the classroom, building space buggies and decorating our very own personalised astronauts.

We have painted some beautiful galaxy pictures using cotton buds, had fun splatting paint to make very fun aliens in UFOs and experimented painting on silver tin foil to create some gorgeous space inspired paintings.

We have sorted rockets and astronauts into their different sizes and counted the stars and planets in the sky during our maths circle times.

In phonics we have been experimenting with our voices and trying out different ways of singing some of our favourite songs, such as Five Little Men in a Flying Saucer.

We have been helping to get our hands nice and strong by exploring our space sensory trays and tweezing out the moon rocks and stars.

We have continued to talk about our feelings and those of others, thinking about what makes people feel happy, sad, scared and angry. We're very good at making sure all of our friends feel happy at School and if someone seems a little bit sad we all hold hands together so we have a class full of smiles and laughs again.

I hope you all have a lovely half term and I look forward to another half term filled full of fun, laughter and learning.

Miss Harriet

Class 4 Photo Gallery

