



Baildon Church of
England Primary School
and Nursery
NEWSLETTER

Number 176 20th March 2020



RELIGIOUS NEWS

On Monday, Mr Holmes led a special worship on The Easter Story whereby the children watched a video on the whole story and then discussed the important events in the story. As a Christian school, this story is central to our beliefs and we hope that, over the next few weeks, you will further discuss the story with your children.

Whilst we are closed, we intend to continue to send some religious thoughts and reflections during this testing time.

BRADFORD METROPOLITAN FOODBANK

May I repeat my sincere thanks to everyone who sent food to school in response to our appeal for the Metropolitan Foodbank. We were really touched by your generosity and we know that it will make a real difference. In these challenging times, can we ask you to continue to support charities such as these in the community.

RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION CONSULTATION

All families should have received information about the consultation about relationship education yesterday. Please can we ask you to return any questions which you have to the school office at office@baildonce.co.uk

BIKEABILITY

It was great to see that school has continued as normal as much as possible this week in the circumstances and yesterday one of our Year 5 classes undertook their Bikeability 1 training with the other class due to complete their level 1 training today.

YEAR 3 ART SALE

Thank you to everyone who attended the Year 3 Art Sale of their Hockney inspired masterpieces which raised £143.

WORKING AT HOME QUERIES

We have received a number of queries regarding the amount of work children should be doing at home, if school can provide work and about marking. Whilst I can give a definitive answer about the fact that, unfortunately, we are unable to provide laptops, it is very difficult to answer regarding the amount of work which children should be doing. As a school next week we have been asked to provide childcare for children and not educational support so children attending school will not be undertaking formal lessons. The amount of work which children complete at home will vary very much depending on the age of the children and the amount of independence which they have. We have suggested that children undertake some tasks regularly such as reading, tables, exercise etc, other tasks such as creating an Easter Garden might actually take the whole day to undertake. We want children to have a balance of activities and not to spend all their time on the computer. Parents know their own children and will be in a position to gauge their receptiveness and engagement in different tasks so it is probably better to make a judgement call yourselves but bearing in mind that we are only in school for 5 and a quarter hours every day, we would not expect children to work for longer than that!

As you are aware, our staff will be continuing to work to cover the provision which we are putting in place which may also limit the amount of time which teachers will have to upload things to VLE and engage with pupils. At this moment in time, we are unable to predict how this

will affect teacher time. However, please be advised that it will not be possible for teachers to mark work for children on an individual basis.

CHILDCARE ARRANGEMENTS FROM 23rd March

Thank you to the parents who have completed the survey sent out this morning. The survey will stay open until Monday so please do not worry if you have not managed to complete it yet.

Unfortunately, due to the late release by the Government identifying key workers, we were not able to organise the survey any sooner.

The office have been inundated since the survey has gone out by enquiries as to whether they are eligible for this childcare offer. Please can I ask you to be considerate to the staff who will be continuing to work so that children of front line workers can be cared for. **I cannot stress enough the guidance from government is to keep children at home as much as possible.**

Parents are asked to either send proof of eligibility as a key worker to the office in an email or to send it in an envelope with their child on the first day when they come to school.

Please be advised that the school bus will not be running after today.

Please note that, with the exception of children of staff, we are not able to offer this provision to children who are not on our school register.

Children who are coming for 8am are asked to enter via the hall door but children who are coming at 8.45am are asked to enter via their normal doors. At 3.15pm, children will exit via their normal doors but should be collected from the hall any time after the normal end of the day. Children should come dressed in suitable clothes for indoor and outdoor activities, including sport (no need for school uniform). We will be providing dinners in school as normal and payment will be in the normal way. If your child normally has school dinners and wants to bring packed lunch, that would be acceptable and we can also cater for children swapping from packed lunches to dinners.

Payment for childcare between 8am and 8.45am will cost £2

Payment for childcare between 3.15pm and 5pm will cost £4.50

All payments need to be made via the online system which will be set up for Monday.

ACHIEVER OF THE WEEK

Our achiever of the week has been awarded to pupils who have shown problem solving skills in their work:

Nursery Stanley G

FS Sophia W, Annabella F

Y1 Louis H, Harvey C-S

Y2 Isabelle M, Amelie McG

Y3 Phoebe G, 3FH

Y4 Lily W, Luca W-S

Y5 Imogen B Yousuf M

Y6 Harry C, Dylan C

Congratulations also to the **whole staff** who have been real achievers this week and demonstrated true resilience!

ATTENDANCE

Attendance for the week of 9th March

FS1am 97.14%

FS1pm 96.36%

FS1 (30) 100%

FS2Q 98.33%

FS2M 97.29%

Y1S 98.67%

Y1P 95.33%

Y2F 94.84%

Y2D 100%

Y3W 98.33%
Y3FH 99%
Y4M 96.43%
Y4AW 98.33%
Y5B 98.67%
Y5G 100%
Y6V 99.33%
Y6B 96.55%

Congratulations to Y2D and FS! (30 hours) who, with 100%, won the EYFS/ KS1 cup and to Y5G who also had 100% and won the KS2 cup.

RICE SALES

Thank you to everyone who ordered rice where we sold 51 bags in 2 days! We still have more white rice available but please do not order if you are not going to be attending childcare as we will be unable to get it to you.

FUNTASTIK

Parents who use this service will know that, at present, they have decided that they will cease operation today. Can we thank them on behalf of current and past parents for the wonderful service that they have provided for the children and hope that this is just a temporary closure.

This has been a particularly difficult week for everyone but I am extremely grateful to the Governors who have been on hand to help, to the staff who have been wonderful and to the parents who have sent in the really positive emails which have endorsed all that we have been doing. Writing this newsletter has been an extremely difficult thing to do in light of the uncertainty in the world at the moment and also not knowing if or when I will write another one!

I leave you with a reflection which was shared with me earlier in the week about COVID 19 and which raises some really pertinent issues. Please stay well.

There is so much fear, and perhaps rightfully so, about COVID-19.

And, what if...

If we subscribe to the philosophy that life is always working out for us, that there is an intelligence far greater than humans at work...

That all is interconnected.

What if...

the virus is here to help us?

To reset.

To remember.

What is truly important.

Reconnecting with family and community.

Reducing travel so that the environment, the skies, the air, our lungs all get a break.

Parts of China are seeing blue sky and clouds for the first time in forever with the factories being shut down.

Working from home rather than commuting to work (less pollution, more personal time).

Reconnecting with family as there is more time at home.

An invitation to turn inwards — a deep meditation — rather than the usual extroverted going out to self-soothe.

To reconnect with self — what is really important to me?

A reset economically.

The working poor. The lack of healthcare access for over 30 million in the US. The need for paid sick leave.

How hard does one need to work to be able to live, to have a life outside of work?

To face our mortality — check back into “living” life rather than simply working, working, working.

To reconnect with our elders, who are so susceptible to this virus.
And, washing our hands — how did that become a “new” thing that we needed to remember.
But, yes, we did.
The presence of Grace for all.
There is a shift underway in our society — what if it is one that is favorable for us?
What if this virus is an ally in our evolution?
In our remembrance of what it means to be connected, humane, living a simpler life, to be less
impactful/ more kind to our environment.
An offering from my heart this morning. Offered as another perspective. Another way of
relating to this virus, this unfolding, this evolution.
It was time for a change, we all knew that.
And, change has arrived.
What if...

Gurpeet K Gill