

Bartons Primary School COVID-19 Newsletter 16 17th July 2020 PART 1

2019-2020 Reflection

I can hardly believe that we have reached the end of the school year and wow what a year it has been. Who could have predicted what was going to be ahead? The autumn term started well, new staff and excited children who all settled well into term. At the end of the term, Ofsted visited and although a distant memory now, the monumental achievement gave us what we had worked so hard for. Bartons was now in a great place and we were looking forward to lots of exciting events in the New Year. January brought us a renewed energy, following our 'Good' judgement and we were looking forward to developing the new curriculum. Then Covid-19 arrived and the world stopped. Lockdown brought us all new experiences but in reality, it spoilt the rest of the school year for all of us especially Year 6. Over the last few months, it has been great to see more children return to school but we have really missed the whole school and all the fun activities of the summer term.

As I reflect on the year, I would like to pay tribute to all of my amazing staff who have worked so hard this year. They demonstrated amazing skills during Ofsted and the inspectors were highly complimentary. They then, with a days notice, had to change their working practise in light of Covid-19. We were prepared and the staff switched to new ways of working from home and on a school on a rota. The teachers continued to teach using Seesaw which proved to be very successful.

Class Photographs

Reminder: the last date for ordering a class photo from Yellow is Sunday 19th July.

Chartwells

In September, Chartwells will continue to provide hot meals. Please remember that if you want to order a hot meal for your child/ren who are in Years 3 - 6, you need to preorder at www.mealselector.co.uk. Meals cost £2.35. For parents whose child/ren have a special diet, you must contact Chartwells to ensure that they receive one. Parents have to update Chartwells themselves at the start of every school year. The autumn term food menu is on the school website.

Year 6 Residential

In light of Covid-19, many Year 5 parents have been asking whether the planned Year 6 residential will still go ahead in November. As things stand, overnight stays are not allowed and so for this reason, we have moved the date in the hope that the rules will have changed in the New Year. The new date for the PGL residential is 8th March until the 12th March. Next term we will give you more details about payments which will be able to be made on ParentMail.

Returning to School September 2020

As I'm sure that all parents were, the staff thrilled when the were Government announced that all children would return to school in September. It will be so good to return to some kind of normality and to get the children back learning and having fun in class with their friends. Early on in the term, we will assess the children to gauge whether there are any gaps and we will build in lots of activities to support their emotional well-being. There will be some adaptations to the building and to some of the activities that we normally run but we will welcome the children back and keep everything as normal as possible. Given the success of the return of the eligible groups in June, we have no doubts that the children won't be happy and anticipate that everything will smoothly. Please see PART 2 for more details.