



Barton
Junior School

5 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus Update

Last week it was announced that schools will still be closed to all pupils apart from Key worker/vulnerable children until at least 8th March. The Government have promised to give us two weeks' notice prior to opening so as soon as I know when school is to re-open then I will let you know. I understand how disappointing this is for you all as I know how much effort is having to go into home learning and how difficult it must be for you and your children. Here in school, we miss the children so much and just want them back with us. Hopefully, this will happen next term at some point.

Staff in school are now completing lateral flow tests twice a week. Please can I remind you to have contingency plans in place if you are a Key worker and/or have a child currently in school as your child's bubble may have to close due to a confirmed COVID positive test result.

Free School Meals

Free school meal vouchers will continue over the half term holiday – the government have recently confirmed this, and vouchers will continue to be distributed to all those entitled to Free-School Meals until the children return to school. I am unsure yet if the vouchers over half term will be from Edenred or Wonde. As soon as I have confirmation of this, I will let you know.

Remote Education and Questionnaire Feedback

Many thanks to everyone who has provided feedback on our Remote Education and provision during lockdown.

We are overwhelmed by the positivity and would like to thank you all for the lovely messages of support. For any suggestions you have offered to further improve, I will be collating and addressing these next week.

I am sure you will join me again in thanking the teachers and support staff who are working tirelessly to provide not only education but support for wellbeing and families who may be struggling at the moment. I urge you to continue to contact us if you have a problem as we may be able to help in some way, even if it is not education related.

Unfortunately, I have not been well over the last couple of weeks, and it has cheered me no end to look at the work the children have been submitting to their teachers. Their enthusiasm and determination to rise to challenges has certainly left me in no doubt that our children are full of resilience. They all should be very proud of themselves, as we are of them.

If you have not managed to access the work or are having difficulty with technology or anything else, please do not hesitate to get in touch and we will solve the problems together.

Gold Literacy Mark



Miss Knight has informed me today that we have been awarded the Gold Literacy Mark for all the minutes read that we record for Busters Book Club. Again, this reflects the children's hard work and shows how hard everyone has been working. Well done to everyone involved. We will keep on reading and aim for the next award.

Half Term Holiday

Just a reminder that we close for half term on Friday 12th February. There will be no home learning or Class Dojo this week and school is closed to Key workers / Vulnerable children. Home learning will resume on Monday 22nd February and school again will only be open to Key Worker and Vulnerable children.

As always, we are contactable for assistance during this difficult time. Please do not hesitate to contact us via the office or email barton@barton.dfamat.com and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you as ever for your ongoing support.

Best Wishes

Melanie O'Dell

Headteacher