



# BHPS Newsletter No.1 2021-2022

Make the Future Better For All

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*Dear Parents/Carers,*

*Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year. These will be issued on a regular basis according to need and the dates section at the end will be continually updated in each letter.*

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## Welcome Back

We would like to send out a warm welcome to all children and parents at the start of this new school year. It has been quite a moving few days as we start to operate with fewer COVID restrictions. To see so many of you on the first morning and to hold our first assembly for 18 months were emotional moments that we will not forget. We have greatly missed these simple things. Of course, we do not know what the future holds but we will do all that we can to follow the national guidance with common sense. Let us hope for a positive and uninterrupted year.

## Meet the Team

As you will know from our newsletter at the end of last term, we are due to be holding our 'Meet the Team' event on Tuesday 7th September. The timings of the meetings are as follows:

6.00pm Meet the Team meetings for years 1,3 & 5 (no children)

7.00pm Meet the Team meetings for years 2, 4 & 6 (no children)

We are currently operating with a much reduced number of COVID restrictions in school, however, we still have to risk assess all activities and make ongoing adjustments in light of the local and national picture. Those of you who can remember what the Meet the Team meetings were like before the pandemic will recall that, after meeting in the hall, groups of parents would go to a year group classroom for information about the coming year. In most cases this would involve 40 or even 50 adults squeezing into one room. In the current climate of rising cases, this course of action appears to be foolish and, given that the meeting can be managed remotely, we feel it is safer to run a remote meeting for each year group rather than having such large numbers of adults in a confined space in school. We understand that this will both please and disappoint some of you but a clear decision has to be made. Teachers will still present the information relating to their year groups and answer your questions and we ask that if you have any questions that you email them, in advance, to [office@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk) by 3.00pm on Monday. After the meeting, teachers will post their presentations on the class pages of the website. Your teachers will be in touch soon with details of how to join the meeting.

## COVID Measures

The national guidance that schools have to follow when managing safety measures during the pandemic has been significantly changed. Significant changes include:

- No more need for bubbles of children
- Assemblies can resume
- No more need for separation at lunchtime
- No more need to wear facemasks in school
- No requirements for staggering the start/end of the school day

- School visits and residentials are permitted

Measures that are still in place include:

- Frequent (although less frequent than the summer) handwashing for all
- As much ventilation as possible in all rooms, whilst also trying to maintain thermal comfort (being warm enough!)
- Staff undertaking twice weekly lateral flow tests
- Additional cleaning regimes

100% pupil attendance is mandatory and the rules regarding isolation have changed.

**If a child displays any of the following symptoms at home:**

- **a new persistent cough**
- **a high temperature of 38 degrees or more**
- **a change/loss in their sense of taste or smell,**

**they should not be sent to school. They should isolate (from all their out of school activities also) and should take a PCR test. A lateral flow test is not sufficient. If the PCR test is negative they can return to school.**

If a member of a household tests positive for Coronavirus, the guidance says that other members do not have to isolate if they are younger than 18 years and 6 months or if they have received both vaccination injections. i.e. **if someone in your house tests positive, your child can still come to school providing they have no symptoms.**

In the same way, **if a child tests positive in school they will be sent home immediately** but other members of their class will not be sent home to isolate unless there is a significant outbreak.

Schools have been tasked with producing an outbreak management plan which outlines the measures that would be taken if there were several cases in a class/school. Our plan is complete and will be put on the school website soon.

## Drop off Window

We have been very pleased to see how the drop off window is starting to operate in the mornings. The plan is still to open gates at 8:38 so that children can enter their classrooms at any time between 8:40 and 8:50. The registers will be taken at 8:50. At the rear of the school, please say goodbye to your child on the infant playground and encourage their independence by encouraging them to enter their classrooms by themselves. If you have an urgent message for the teacher that cannot wait until the end of the day, then please pass this onto a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) who should be on duty outside. We will keep this approach under review as the term settles down.

## Office and Reception

Unfortunately, we are still short staffed in the school office and your patience and understanding is much appreciated. I am very grateful for the hard work of Miss Chell and Mrs Smith at such a busy time of year. The school has placed an advert for a new School Business Manager and details of this can be seen in the Vacancies section of the school website.

## Do you have an interesting job?

We are planning to host a day when we talk to children about their aspirations for the future and try to look ahead with positivity after such a testing time. Can you help?

We would love to hear from any parents who would be prepared to come into school (or even send us a video) to talk about their jobs for about 10 or 15 minutes. (Don't worry, we will help you if you want!). It would be great to have visitors from a mixture of backgrounds and also challenge a few stereotypes along the way. All visitors would follow social distancing protocols. Please email your offers to the main school office and label them for the attention of Mrs Gunning.

## Online Safety

The school is always keen to promote the safety of children as they access the online world. We are providing more and more resources to advise parents with the latest information. Please follow this link to see how you can keep your child safe. [Click here.](#)

## Dates and Planning Ahead

Please see the dates for your diary listed below.

### Dates

**New dates are written in bold.**

INSET Days for 2021-2021

Tuesday 31st August 2021

Friday 1st October 2021

Monday 4th October 2021

Monday 21st February 2022

Friday 1st July 2022.

### September

Tues 7th 6.00pm Meet the Team meetings for years 1,3 & 5 (no children)

7.00pm Meet the Team meetings for years 2, 4 & 6 (no children)

Weds 8th New Foundation children Diamonds and Sapphires start full time.

Weds 8th School swimming starts full time

**Fri 10th Guitar lessons start**

**Thurs 16th Yr 6 to Galleries of Justice**

**Thurs 16th Yr 4 Egyptian Specialist Day in school**

## **October**

**Thurs 7th Individual photographs**

**18th to 29th Half Term Holiday**

## **November**

**Mon 8th Pupil Flu Vaccination Day**

**Fri 26th PTA Christmas Fair**

## **December**

**20th - 31st Christmas Holiday**

Thank you

Pete Taylor

Head Teacher

Contact Us



If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter, please contact the school by the following methods:

Telephone: 0115 9179226

Email: [office@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@bramcotehills.notts.sch.uk)

Website: [www.bramcotehills.org](http://www.bramcotehills.org)

