



22nd May, 2020

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you are all keeping safe and well.

Most of you will have seen the staff music video that we created for all our wonderful children here at Brighstone. It was really fun to do, and we hope you enjoyed watching it. Thank you for all your positive comments on Facebook and on our text system - I know the video and all your comments brought tears to many eyes! I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Mrs Aram for organising it all, and to Mrs Rogers and her very talented husband for editing all the individual videos and putting it all together. If you haven't seen it yet, it is on the home page of our school website, and a link to it is also on our Facebook page.

I know that many of you have been enjoying the opportunity to home-school your children, and we really value seeing all the fun activities that you get up to. Please keep sending in your photos - we love them and it really helps to keep us all connected. Some of you have also requested phone calls for your children from the adults in school - it's a good opportunity for the children to speak with their teacher or other adult, to talk about the learning and the fun activities that they have been doing, and to help with their wellbeing. It has been lovely speaking with the children! If you would like an adult in school to call and chat with your child, please send a text, email your class home learning address or call the school directly, and we will arrange a suitable time. While a lot of your home learning experiences may be positive, there will be times when it will become overwhelming. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like some advice or support. No question is too small, and you will find that many of you are in the same situation and have the same queries and concerns.

The government has recently updated their information and guidance for parents to support them with home learning. This is attached with this email, and the link is here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Recently, there has been a lot of uncertainty across the nation following the Prime Minister's announcement that schools may partially reopen for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, and we really appreciate your support, patience and understanding while preparations have been made and new risk assessments drawn up ensuring that we are able to meet the regularly updated government advice and guidance. An initial letter was sent out to you all following this announcement, and a second letter was emailed to you all today, further detailing our plans and organisation. The government is expected to make a decision on Thursday 28th May, and we will contact you after this with next steps.

To help lessen the transmission of the virus, social distancing measures are still in place across the country, and we appreciate your support in continuing this while on the school site and when out and about. We politely request that parents don't enter the foyer where possible, as it is difficult to maintain social distancing in this small space. If you need to contact the office, please ring us on 740285, email office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk or text via our text system. We are also operating a cashless system as much as possible, so payments can be made via School Money, or by ringing the office and paying by card over the phone. Further information about the preventative measures in place are available in the letter that was emailed out this morning. Thank you for your understanding in these matters.

After half-term, children in school and at home will be starting new topics! Each class will have their own topic (see below), and these topic webs will be available in the usual home learning packs on our school website, along with the other subjects, including English, Maths, Spellings/Phonics, Science, etc... Please remember to contact your child's class teacher via the class email address if you would like a paper pack of the home learning activities.

It is half-term next week and the sun is expected to shine! Please send in any photos of the half-term activities that you get up to - we'd love to see them!

We wish you a fun and happy half-term holiday.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone Team

Useful Information

[Concerned for a Child](#)

[Support for Parents](#)

[Support for Young People](#)

Topics

R: Beach / Seaside

1: Dinosaurs

2: Shipwrecks

3/4: Rivers and the water cycle

5: Rivers and the water cycle

6: The Secret Garden

Safeguarding

At Brighstone Primary School, keeping children safe remains one of our top priorities during these unprecedented times.

Student well-being and safety are vitally important to us and during the enforced school closure period, we remain absolutely committed to keeping children safe. If you have any concerns regarding the safeguarding of children, we are still here for you so please do not hesitate to contact us in the following ways:

Phone: **01983 740285** and request to speak to the *Designated Safeguarding Lead*.

The office is open from 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday. For safeguarding concerns outside of these times please email: [**safeguarding@brighstoneprimary.org.uk**](mailto:safeguarding@brighstoneprimary.org.uk)

If there is an emergency and you believe a child is in immediate danger, you must **call 999**.

If your concern is urgent, please contact the Hampshire MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) line on: **0300 3000 117** or email [**childrens.services@hants.gov.uk**](mailto:childrens.services@hants.gov.uk)

Out of hours contact telephone number for Children's Services. Phone **0300 555 1373**

Virtual Activities for Half-Term

<https://iow-newsroom.prgloo.com/news/may-virtual-half-term-fun>

