



11th September 2020

Learning and Achieving through
Love, Courage and Respect

Dear parents and carers,

We have come to the end of our first full week back, and I would like to thank you all for your support in ensuring that the children have had an enjoyable transition back to school. Despite all the extra health and safety measures that we have in place, we are trying to make their experience in school as normal as possible, with lots of fun learning activities. The one-way system in the mornings and afternoons seems to be working well, so we are going to **return to opening the gates at 8.15am and 2.40pm**. The morning gate will close at 8.25am as usual. The social distancing measures are still in place, and we will monitor the timings to see how it goes.

We had our first experiences of **Collective Worship** via Zoom this term! The bubbles are taking it in turns to attend worship in the hall, while the other bubbles watch via Zoom. Other than a few technical issues to start with (plus a very short power cut!), they went well. We welcomed back Andy Dorning from South Wight Area Youth (SWAY) this week, who led the worship on Wednesday along with Jack, who has joined SWAY. We wish Jack a very warm welcome and we look forward to working alongside him (at a suitable social distance!) over the coming year.

Robertson class (Y3/4) had a very exciting day on Tuesday. They were very privileged to host their namesake - **Shirley Robertson** - in class, via Zoom. The children had thought of some great questions, including, 'What is the most interesting thing you have seen in the water?' and, 'What was it like to meet the Queen?' She duly answered these questions with such charisma and enthusiasm, and the children were captivated. She even showed us her two Olympic gold medals. It was a super opportunity to learn more about 'yngling' class boats and how Shirley's perseverance and dedication was key to her success. They had a very inspiring morning. Thank you, Shirley.

As part of our learning in school, as well as to support remote learning at home, we are looking to purchase **DoodleMaths**, which is an online learning app, whose digital learning platforms create individual work plans for children from Reception to Year 6, intelligently tailored to their strengths and areas for development. It is designed to reinforce existing knowledge while gradually introducing new concepts, and is ideal for supplementing school learning at home. We will be trialling it for the next couple of weeks, and would love your feedback on it, as this will help to inform our decision. Please see the separate email and letter for further information.

Tomorrow (Saturday) sees our **Round the Island Relay Race** against Nine Acres Primary School. Brighstone Team have been successful winners the last two years, and we are determined to win again! We have a range of staff, parents and grandparents taking part, and we encourage you to follow our progress on the BSA Facebook page tomorrow. It starts at 5am and is expected to finish mid-afternoon. All monies raised go towards supporting your child's education, including reducing the cost of trips for parents, so if you would like to donate please visit the BSA Facebook page, call the office or speak with Lucy Brodie. We wish everyone the best of luck!!

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend, and I look forward to seeing you all again between 8.15 and 8.25 on Monday morning.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone Team

Golden Book

Ainslie	The whole class for settling in so well to Ainslie Class
Lambert	The whole class for a positive start to Year 1/2 and super acting of the Billy Goats Gruff
Robertson	Leigh, Caspar and Max Be ~ for home learning efforts during lockdown
Macarthur	The whole class for settling in so well
Clover	Katelyn ~ for her fantastic effort in English. Lily ~ Being a fantastic role model.

Communication

With our new system for drop off and collection, to ease congestion and aid social distancing we are asking that, if you need to speak to your child's teacher, you email them rather than speak to them at the classroom door. If a conversation is needed, the teacher can call you. If you wish to contact your child's teacher directly, please use the class email as below.

ainslie@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
lambert@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
robertson@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
macarthur@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
clover@brighstoneprimary.org.uk

Alternatively, you can still contact the school office:

office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk Please use this email address for absence letters.

Social distancing during drop off and collection

Thank you for your support and understanding with this so far. We are doing our best to avoid having to introduce staggered start and finish times. Therefore, we ask that you do not congregate once you have dropped off or collected your child/ren so that other parents can move through and leave the school site safely.

Parents may choose to drop their child/ren off to the member of staff on the gate and leave them to enter the school by themselves. There is always a member of staff on the playground to welcome them.

At the end of the school day for children in years 5 and 6, if you have filled out a "permission to walk home unaccompanied" form, we will let your child leave the classroom at 2.45pm.

Revised times:

Gates are open:
8.15am - 8.25am
2.40pm - 2.50pm

School Dinners

Children in **Year R, 1 and 2** are entitled to a 'universal' **free** school meal everyday. Children in years 3-6 are charged at £2.15 per day.

W/c 14th	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pizza	Turkey Pitta	Roast Gammon	Spag Bol	Fish Fingers
Option 2	Veggie risotto	Veggie Pasta	Veggie Pie	Veggie Chilli	Cheese pastry
Dessert	Oaty Square	Fruit and Yog	Marble Cake	Drizzle Cake	Ice cream

If children from years 1-6 do not like what is on the menu, they can ask for a jacket potato with either, beans, cheese, beans and cheese or tuna mayo. Fresh salad and fruit is offered everyday alongside the daily options.

Attendance

If your child is unable to come to school, please let the office know before 8.25am. When your child returns to school please make sure you **provide a letter/email outlining the reason for the absence** so that we can authorise it. Failure to do this within 3 days of the absence will mean it will be marked as unauthorised and persistent unauthorised absences can result in a fixed penalty notice from the Local Authority.

Wellbeing Window

From now on we will be putting suggestions here to help you to take care of yourself during these ever increasing, unsettling times that can cause anxiety. Set yourself the challenge of doing just this one thing each week.

[Have a mini dance party](#) - blast some music and dance, be silly and have some fun with the children in the middle of your living room or have a kitchen disco. Music and moving are both great ways to improve your mood.

