



St Bartholomew's CE Multi Academy Trust
Sedgley Road
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Wolverhampton
West Midlands
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St Bartholomew's CE Primary School

Headteacher: Rachael Kilmister
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April 2020

Dear Parents,

Keeping in Touch

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones all healthy and well. I just wanted to touch base with all of our families with some information that you may find helpful.

Home schooling

I am very aware that there is an abundance of resources and information regarding learning from home available. Firstly I would like to say that anything that is provided and available is there to support you **should you want to** and that the vast quantities may feel overwhelming. At this time, you will know what is best for you and your family and you should not feel any pressure to work in a particular way or complete a given amount of work/tasks. It would be very difficult to try and replicate the school timetable and working 1:1 with a child is very different to working with a group or class. The most important thing at the moment is your and your child's health and emotional wellbeing. Do not feel pressured into doing anything that does not work for you and your current situation. We will be able to make up for this missed time when the children return to school. We will keep adding tasks to the website for those of you who want it. Pick and choose what interests your child but do not feel obliged to complete anything (and definitely not everything)! The most important activity to continue with is reading. A list of recommended books will be posted on the website this week.

Accessing information

If you currently do not receive letters by emails and would like your name added to our mailing list during the school closures, please contact the school office, by either email or phone. Once sent to parents, all letters and newsletters are published on the school website. These can be found by clicking on the parents tab on the homepage and then selecting the option School News (third down on the list). For any school work, updates and messages from teachers and links to websites, select the Classworks-Handouts tab on the homepage. From here, you can access the school updates page, class folders and useful links page. New learning activities have been added to this for the new half term.

Children's illnesses

Please find attached a letter published by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health regarding where and when to seek help for your child should they become poorly. There are concerns that whilst parents are understandably worried about taking their children to the doctors or hospital during the COVID-19 pandemic, other, potentially serious illnesses are being missed. The attached letter aims to provide important information about when medical help should be accessed.

Children's well being

In these very different times, you may be concerned about your children's emotional wellbeing. This year we have been working with Nuffield Health on a brilliant project regarding children's mental health, which we have found very worthwhile. The project lead organiser has forwarded me a link to online resources which may help your child during the current situation and beyond.



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Please follow the link below to access their site and view these resources:

<https://www.nuffieldhealth.com/kidswellbeing>

This can also be found on our website. Select Classworks-Handouts, school updates and Head Teacher News or follow the link for useful websites.

Teacher email addresses

We are keen for children to be able to keep in touch with their class teacher whilst they are off school. We have therefore decided to provide you with their direct email addresses. You will receive this via our text message service. Please note that teachers will only respond during normal school term time, between the hours of 9am and 3pm. Teachers are either working in school on a rota basis or completing curriculum based tasks at home so please bear in mind that there may be a delay in replying to messages. Any general school questions or queries should continue to be directed to me or the school office. I hope your child finds this useful.

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact me if you think there is anything the school can do to support you at this time. We can't wait to see you all and be back together as soon as it is safe to do so. We miss you all very much.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Rachael Kilmister', on a white rectangular background.

Rachael Kilmister
Headteacher