



NEWSLETTER

We are growing together on our journey of achievement with Jesus in our hearts, heads and hands.

www.stjosephsbracknell.co.uk

26th March 2021

Dear Parents

The staff and children have all had a very busy few weeks and it is hard to believe that this is the end of only the third week back at school for most of the children. The children have all settled really well into their classrooms, are obviously delighted to be back with their friends and teachers. The children should be congratulated on their resilience and strength – we are all very proud of them.

Change in Y3 & Y4 collection point: Our Y1 parents have been queuing outside the KS2 single gate when collecting their children. The class waits on the other side of the gate and children are called when their parents reach the first place in queue. Once the parent has their child, the parent and child leaves through the external gate which leads directly onto Gipsy Lane. From Monday 29th March we are asking parents from Y3 and Y4 to do the same.

Extended Schools – Morning club & After School

Club: I am very happy to report that the changes we have made with the ASC are working well even when considering the bubble constraints. I would like to thank the ASC staff for implementing this change with the children's wellbeing and safety at the heart of all their decisions and actions.

Morning Club: Please remember that Footsteps children should arrive no earlier than 8am.

On Monday 29th March, every parent will be given the option to book for the next half term via Parentmail. If you do not need either morning or after school care, please ignore email. However, if you wish to book any days, please complete the booking form. We do require payment by 6pm Sunday April 18th.

Ad-hoc are still accepted but there is an extra admin charge.

Price:

- Booked sessions:
 - Morning Club £2
 - Early bird £5

- Late ASC £10
- Ad hoc sessions
 - Morning club £3
 - Early bird £7
 - Late ASC £12

Sibling discount is only available to 3rd child for late ASC i.e. Booked sessions x 3 children is £25, Ad hoc sessions for 3 children is £30

Full details will be sent out on Monday.

Remembrance: It is hard to believe that it was a year ago last Tuesday when the first national lockdown began and we opened the school doors only for the Key Worker children. This year has seemed relentless at times and yet has sped past so quickly in other ways. So much has changed right across the world, and much is unrecognisable from the world we lived in pre-pandemic. On Tuesday, class bubbles stopped and reflected upon these changes as well as in remembrance of all those around the world who have died as a result of this dreadful virus.

Uniform Many thanks to Ms. Sloan who took the time to arrange a school uniform sale this week. From 19th April, children may wear the summer uniform. This is the blue gingham dress for girls and the royal blue polo top for boys. Children, if they wish, can also continue to wear the winter uniform as we understand it may be difficult to purchase the summer uniform.

School uniform unites us as a school community and fosters a feeling of pride and a sense of belonging. This in turn helps to develop a greater awareness of personal appearance, self-esteem and self-respect. There has been a lot of positive feedback about the school allowing children to wear their PE kit. However, if this is to continue into the autumn term, parents will need to invest in a School Tracksuit. We are presently investigating suitable school tracksuit options. Watch this space!

Family Activities for Lent: The Diocesan Catholic Academies and Schools Office (CASO) has prepared a

selection of resources to support families in marking and celebrating the Lenten season. There is a new page on the CASO website that features resources for schools and families for Lent.

<http://www.casoportsmouth.org.uk/lent/>

We have worked collaboratively, with St Margaret Clitherow school, on a Stations of the Cross presentation. This will be shared with the Diocese so look out for them on both the diocesan and parish website.

A Polite Reminder... Parents should not drive onto the school site from 8.15am to 3.20pm. If dropping off for Morning Club please do not park in the teachers' car park; use the far end of the car park and please accompany your child to the Club. Thank you for your continued support.

Diary Dates:

End of Spring Term: School closes for the Easter holiday on Thursday 1st April. The school ending times will remain as normal and there will be After School Club on the Thursday night.

Summer Term

Back to school - Monday April 19th.

Bank Holiday Monday - 3rd May

Half Term week – 1 – 4th June

Last Day: Last day of the summer term is Tuesday 20th July.

Summer Holidays: July 21st to Wednesday 1st September. Children return to school on Thursday 2nd September.

Home LFT Tests: As you know our staff are carrying out regular Lateral Flow tests. These tests will help us to identify any asymptomatic staff as quickly as possible, so we can stop the spread of the virus and allow more people to remain in school.

Additionally, to further reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 within schools the Government is recommending that members of a household of school staff or school age children, also take a free twice-weekly test. This also applies if you are part of a support or childcare bubble to school age children. These tests are available:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local [Community Test Site](#) (see below)
- by collecting a home test kit from Bracknell Leisure Centre
- by ordering a home [test kit online \(see below\)](#)

Take a test at a Community Testing Site - You can take a rapid lateral flow test by booking an appointment at a local [Rapid Testing](#) site. Testing at these sites is assisted, which means you will swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator.

Collect test kits - You can collect two packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains seven tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect. The Bracknell Leisure Centre testing site is open daily for collection from 1.30pm to 7pm. You can check [online](#) if the location is open or busy before you go. You do not need to make an appointment. Do not visit a collection point outside opening hours, as it is used to test people with coronavirus symptoms outside these times.

Order home test kits online - If you are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online. Do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most. [Order rapid lateral flow home test kits.](#)

What twice-weekly testing involves - You will be asked to:

- take a test twice a week (three or four days apart)
- report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test
- [report your test result online](#) or by calling 119.

If anyone tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, they should tell the school and:

- self-isolate immediately
- get a PCR test to confirm the result via GOV.UK.
- follow the [stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus. But this does not guarantee you do not have coronavirus, so you should keep following all [coronavirus advice](#) including:

- regular handwashing
- social distancing
- wearing a face covering

Please do not attend any community testing, workplace testing or collection site if you have COVID-19 symptoms. If you have symptoms you must isolate immediately alongside your household and request a PCR test via GOV.UK.

We urge all parents and carers to carry out these free tests to help keep our school community safe and our children receiving valuable education.

Please do read the attached information. You may also wish to view the following video link which shows how the LFD tests should be undertaken: [How to do a rapid test for COVID-19 at home - YouTube](#)

Changes to the Test and Trace support payment for parents: Parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their education setting or by NHS Test and Trace are now able to apply for a [Test and Trace Support Payment](#) or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria. The extension of the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme, which is administered by district and unitary local authorities in England, ensures that parents receive the financial support they need if they are unable to attend work due to childcare responsibilities.

To be eligible applicants must meet all of the criteria that:

- they are the parent or guardian of a child or young person in the same household and need to take time off work to care for them while they self-isolate. This is limited to one parent or guardian per household for the child or young person's self-isolation period
- they are employed or self-employed
- they cannot work from home while undertaking caring responsibilities and will lose income as a result
- they meet all the other means-tested eligibility criteria for a Test and Trace Support Payment or locally determined criteria for a discretionary payment

That their child or young person:

- is aged 15 or under (or 25 or under with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC)) and normally attends an education or childcare setting
- has been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their education or childcare setting because they have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

For more information please click [HERE](#)

Reflection: Today the funeral of Paddy Byrne was held in St. Joseph's & St. Margaret Clitherow Church.

We pray for a Paddy Byrne, a parent, governor and active PTA member who spend many years being a part of our school community. We come to You Lord to give thanks for the gift of his life, and for all of the ways in which he touched our lives. Comfort his family and be very close to them in their sadness and loss.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

As always, please do remember to let us know if there is anything the school can do to help you or your family during these still difficult times.

Please have a lovely weekend

God Bless

Mrs. J. Dunlop

Headteacher



Easter Holiday Club

Holiday club open 6th - 9th April 2021

held at Harman's Water Primary School, Bracknell.

**All children welcome aged 4-11yrs for lots of fun,
activities, arts & crafts and outdoor play.**

Early bird fees £17-19 if paid by 19th March .

We follow strict COVID guidelines.

**We are Ofsted registered and accept all childcare
vouchers. Our friendly staff are all DBS and
First Aid trained.**

For more info and a booking form.

please contact 07716 143554 or

email us: theafterschoolclub2011@yahoo.co.uk



EASTER 2021 BRACKNELL FOOTBALL PLUS CAMP

Not Long To Go Until The Easter Holidays!

We have been working hard at the uSports office to provide as many activities as possible for your children as and when the rules allow. We have recently received confirmation from our venues that we can resume our Football Camp AND Football Academy in Bracknell!

We can't wait to see you there!



WWW.U-SPORTS.CO.UK/BRACKNELL-FOOTBALL-CAMP



Bracknell Football PLUS Tuesday 6th - Thursday 8th April

Garth Hill 3G Pitch
Bracknell
RG42 2AD

9am - 3pm
Drop off from 8:30

£23 Per Day
£60 All 3 Days

PLUS

Bracknell Football Academy Returns 23rd April

Kings Academy 3G
Binfield
RG42 4EY

£8.50
per session
6pm - 7pm

WWW.U-SPORTS.CO.UK/BRACKNELL-FOOTBALL-ACADEMY

