



Beenham Primary School Newsletter



VALUES
EDUCATION

www.beenhamprimary.co.uk



Warwick Mylum

Friday 3rd July 2020

**Our VALUE this month is
SIMPLICITY**

Return to school

Hello everyone

Next week we are able to welcome back the remainder of the school. We are still operating under very strict health and safety guidelines so with this in mind we can offer the following provision:

Mai class - All children can return to school every day. To enable us to have a staggered start to the school day please note that we have changed your time of arrival to 8.50am. Children should still be collected at 2pm.

Torak class (current Year 2 and year 3 children) - All children may attend school on Tuesday and Thursday mornings only, until the end of term. Children should arrive at school at 8.40am and be collected at 12pm.

Mosi class (Just the current year 4 and 5 children) will be divided into two groups - group A and group B. You will be informed of your groups by email or phone on the morning of Monday 6th July. Children should arrive at 8.25am and be collected at 12.15pm.

Vulnerable children, children of key workers and year 6 pupils should come to school with the same arrangements as those in place to date.

Siblings may come into school together but at the earlier arrival time of the older sibling.

What you should know about returning to school

We will be operating 3 bubbles. We have updated the risk assessment to take account of the new arrangements and it is attached to this email.

Advice is that when you change bubbles or crossover pupils and adults from one bubble to another, then you need to have 48 hours in between. We have satisfied this criteria by closing the school from Friday through to Monday. Along with the move, we have undertaken extensive cleaning again.

There will also be a crossover of children to the Mosi bubble because we will be having 2 groups of pupils in the room each week. However, the room will be cleaned between sessions and again there will be 48 hours between each class session.

Please let us know if you have any concerns arising from this plan.

Children can order a packed lunch in school but payment must be paid online if your child isn't eligible for a free meal. Alternatively, your child may bring in a packed lunch in a plastic container. They will also need a plastic water bottle.

We ask that children wear clean clothes every day and that they also wear trainers to school in case we do any form of PE. Please note that we cannot allow book bags or PE kits in school at the current time. We are aiming to ensure that there are no items transferred between home and school apart from a lunchbox and water bottle which can be wiped/sprayed with anti-bacterial cleaner.

Entry into school is around the back of the school through the fire exit that goes into the library. As you approach the door you will see red markings on the ground spaced 2 metres apart. Please queue on the markings whilst you wait.

We look forward to seeing you all back in school next week.

Sue Butcher

Mosi wolf tribute video

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=AeglVluCiow>

Thank you to all who sent such beautiful artwork for our tribute video
to Mosi.

Please have a look at the video using the link above.

Team Points

Red Team – 2226

Yellow Team – 2457

Green Team – 2326

Blue Team – 2321



Stars of the week

Mai Class

Libby Hicks and Grace Clarke

Mrs Cannings has told me how well both these girls have settled back into school life. I have also been impressed by their mathematical reasoning when subitising numbers this week

Well done girls!

Torak Class

Jack Hazzard - Jack made an amazing robotic hand showing how the muscular system works.

Luke Rossiter – Luke has blown us all away this week with his enthusiasm for learning. He has been first to finish most days and he is beginning to write so much!

Mosi Class

Lottie Haines - for her amazingly well planned and well thought out Sports Day. She has put a lot of effort into thinking through her events carefully and her creativity in preparing for it was clear to see in her colourful schedule and invitation. Well done Lottie - you always go above and beyond in your learning.

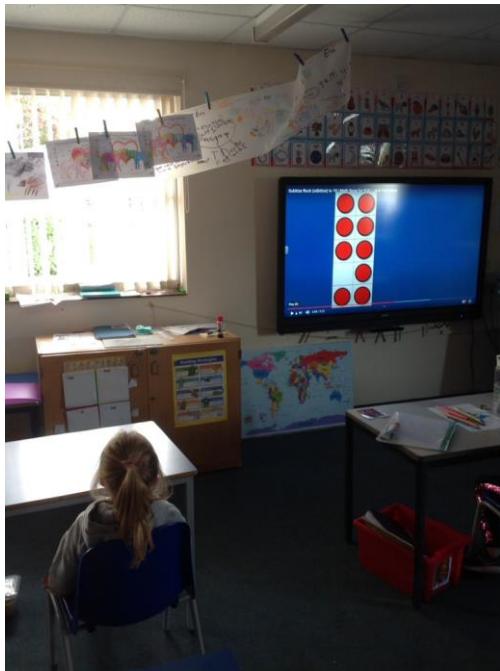
Mason Edwards-Armstrong – Mason has been producing some fab English work since his return to school. He has impressed us with his confidence levels, ability to work independently and the great ideas that he has. Well done Mason!



Mai Class news

A fun, feline week this week with our story 'Slinky Malinky' by Lynley Dodd.

As nearly everyone has returned in Mai Class now, I know you will all have enjoyed talking to each other and collecting data about favourite pets.

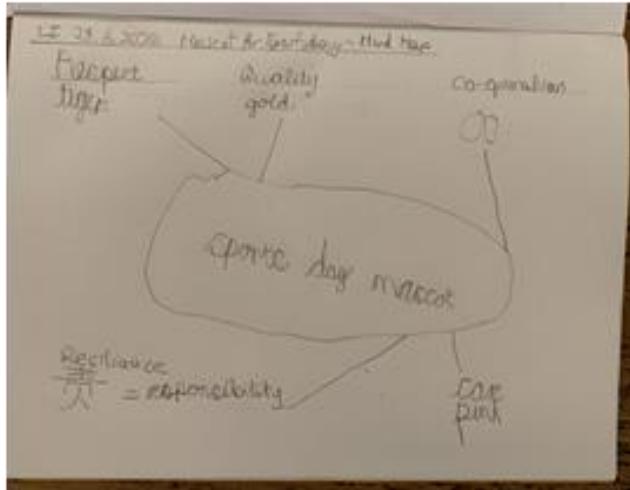
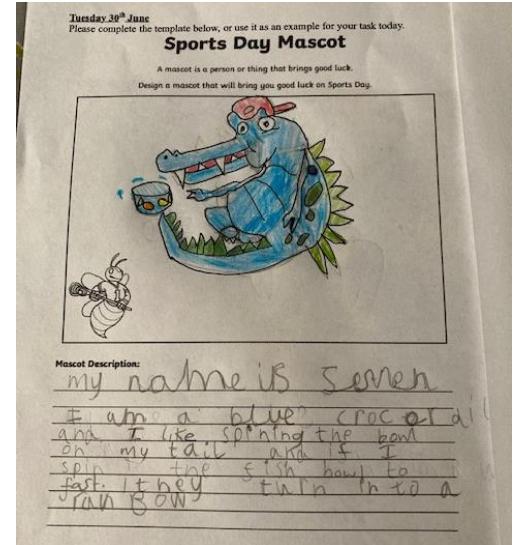
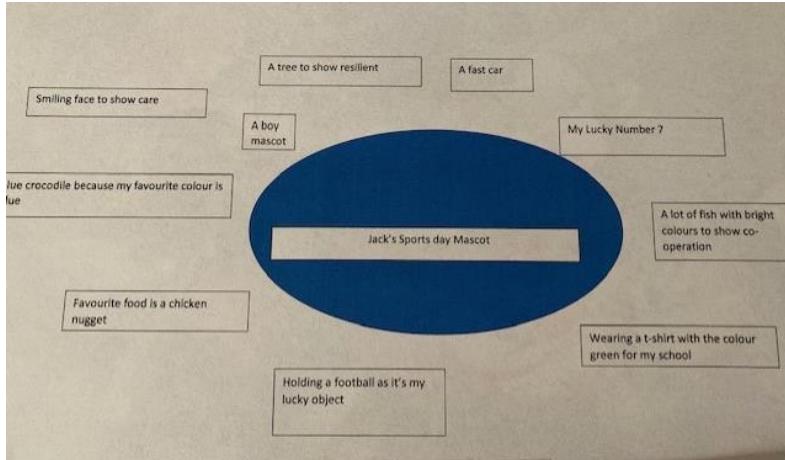


Over the past few weeks I have had many lovely messages from Mai Class parents. I feel so lucky to have worked with you and your beautiful children and I will remember my time at Beenham with true happiness.

Thank you for being so understanding and supportive throughout this strange and difficult time for everyone. I am very sad that I won't be able to say goodbye in person at the end of term but I will keep up to date with how everyone is going regularly and will most definitely visit when we visit the UK in the future.

Torak Class news

This week in Torak class we have been planning for sports day. The children have been thinking about the importance of sportsmanship and created a mascot encompassing our school values. They developed a mind map showing their ideas before deciding on a final design.



The children also designed their own events for sports day, including a hopping race and a gone fishing race. Sounds like you will all have lots of fun at your sports day!

Have a lovely weekend ☺

Mrs Cannings

Mosi Class news

It has been fantastic to see your creativity and ingenuity in designing your own Sports Day this week. Everyone has tried so hard to create a schedule of well thought out events in preparation for their Sports Day. I can't wait to see your photographs of the final event.



Recently we saw lovely pictures of Sophie's new Gecko 'Lola' and now Charlie has also been ever so busy this week with his new family member 'Simba'. He's been busy feeding, walking and playing with his new friend. What a wonderful time he's having! I wonder what else you have all been doing to keep busy and healthy? Don't forget to send in your pictures.

Mrs Russell



From Theale Green School...

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new transition webpage: <https://www.thealegreen.w-berks.sch.uk/join-us/year-6-transition-2020/>.

Our Transition Team have been busy working away in the background to put together a new and updated transition webpage. With updated resources, videos, and additional support materials the page is packed with everything parents and students need to ensure a smooth transition to Theale Green School.

We are conscious that many Year 5 parents may be getting anxious about the fact that they will have to choose a school in a few months. We are hoping that we will have more news shortly so we can finalise the plan for our Open Morning and Evening events. In the meantime, we would encourage them to look at this page to learn more about Theale Green School.

Voice In A Million Coronavirus / COVID -19 Update June 2020

In response to the recent events and the continued uncertainty of when the government is going to allow mass gatherings, Voice In A Million can announce that at this current moment in time our shows will now be rescheduled for March 2021. We held dates for May, July, Oct 2020 but subject to Oliver Dowdens five-stage roadmap for performing arts we feel March 2021 is the best option and are hoping plans will have been fully implemented.

We have now begun collating all information from all schools to assess the impact of this on each school group, which will enable us to plan effectively for the best possible outcome for all.

It was an absolutely heart breaking decision to postpone our concerts in March but in the end the choice was simple, we were bombarded with parents and schools asking us to postpone the event in March to a later and safer time, which we did.

I am sure you are aware this event takes almost a year to organise. All of our costs are paid well in advance and the costs to stage this event are well in excess of £250,000. This amount is not refunded; as we too signed contracts and terms and conditions, that provide for events being re-scheduled. Unfortunately our insurance for the event, although robust, does not cover pandemic outbreaks.

Cont. page 9

We appreciate that this has caused upset and anger to some parents and we can only apologise, we simply do not have the funds to refund and therefore the only option we have is to reschedule.

In short, if we didn't go ahead, we would have no other choice than to close and be one of the many companies that have ceased to trade due to Covid 19.

To sustain enthusiasm for the event from the beginning of the new academic year in Sept 2020 we will be running weekly choir / singing workshops for all schools and students taking part all accessible online with a duration of 40 mins to fit nicely into the schools timetable. We are delighted to announce a number of overseas schools will also be joining us for these sessions. These will be online and can be accessed any time during the week

Regarding Year 6 & Year 11 students where the impact will be greater; we are working with a number of schools to cater for this age group; and whilst they will have left the school by the time of the event, they will be able to attend later in the day with their parents, prior to the event starting, avoiding the need to miss any school time but allowing them the opportunity to experience and take part in our event.

They will have a choice of either being seated with their original school group, or be supervised on a 1-10 ratio in a block for year 6s. This is the fairest way to ensure that those children are given the opportunity not to miss out, and also we hope will mean their families can use their tickets and see their children. Whilst it may not seem like the ideal solution, it is the only one we can offer.

We appreciate parents, family & friends that have purchased tickets, are disappointed, we too were devastated to have to postpone.

The fact is we simply do not have the funds to refund the tickets as we have not been refunded for any of our costs. Had this happened in November 2019 the outcomes would have been very different.

We have 18,000 T-shirts in storage, along with all merchandise. Plus we have 15,000 children that have rehearsed and I am sure want to perform!

Therefore, the show must go on!

Using the Arena to its full capacity rather than our normal configurations for our events would allow us the opportunity to socially distance our events.

I am so sorry that I cannot offer a more positive response but with our industry in crisis, we are simply hoping that we manage to get through this and don't have to close. I would ask that people try to remember that VIAM didn't cause this pandemic and the impact on businesses is huge, we are not the only business to find ourselves in this position and after 12 years of operating VIAM this will have a devastating and lasting effect for the foreseeable future.

With Kind Regards

Jo

Jo Garofalo

Co-Founder / Creative Director

Voice In A Million



The 2020 digital Summer Reading Challenge is now live!

The theme for this year's challenge is 'Silly Squad': a celebration of funny books, happiness and laughter. Children can sign up to take part at <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>. When they do so, they will need to include an email address for a parent or carer. Their parent/carer will then be contacted by The Reading Agency and will need to sign up on their own account and give permission for their child to take part in order to complete the registration process. Please note that as part of their sign up, children need to create their own, unique UserName and to select West Berkshire as their place of residence. However, no personal names are used on the public website.

For the digital challenge, children can set their own reading targets regarding the number of books they hope to read before September. This can be as few or as many as families think practical, although we recommend 6 books as usual. The books don't need to be library books - they can be books from home, from school or anywhere else, including e-books and audiobooks.

As they progress through the digital challenge and rate and review their books, children will unlock a range of games, quizzes and exciting video content. A downloadable certificate will be available to anyone who completes their challenge and perhaps this is something that your pupils may like to bring into school in the autumn? There is also a [School Zone](#) on the Summer Reading Challenge website, where you can find downloadable activities and other resources to help inspire your pupils to read for pleasure.

Once our Order and Collect service is operational, families will be able to request books from us, either online or by telephoning their local library. For those who are unable to take part in the digital **Summer Reading Challenge**, we will have a simple, printed form that they can complete with details of any 6 books that they have read this summer. Certificates will also be available for those who return completed forms to us - but sorry, there are no medals or other prizes this year!

I do hope that your pupils will enjoy this year's challenge and that you find it useful. Throughout the summer, West Berkshire Libraries will continue with our own programme of online events and activities for children as well, which include digital Storytimes on Fridays and weekly book-related craft activities. For more details about all of these and to keep up with other library news, please follow WBerksLibraries on [facebook.com/wberkslibraries]Facebook, [instagram.com/wberkslibraries]Instagram or [twitter.com/wberkslibraries]Twitter.



Beenham Primary School on TWITTER

Find us by searching for @BeenhamPrimary

MAKING CONTACT WITH SCHOOL STAFF

If you have an issue that you would like to discuss with any member of the school staff and you wish to make an appointment to see them, then please email them direct. We do encourage face to face contact whenever possible as we genuinely believe it is the best way to resolve any concern that you may have. Email addresses are as follows:

School Office: office@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Godfrey: jgodfrey@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Cannings: lcannings@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Russell erussell@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Butcher: headteacher@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk

Keep in touch with the school governors by visiting their website regularly. Follow the direct link below.

Beenham School Governor website

NEWSLETTER COMMENTS

If you would like to comment or respond to any of the items in this newsletter then please email office@beenham.w-berks.sch.uk or fill in the slip below.

Name(s) _____

Parent/pupil comment:

Signed: _____ Parent/guardian/pupil