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Headteacher's September Newsletter Monday 14th September

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to all of our families after such a long and at times challenging period of lockdown. I would also like to welcome our new families and children who are joining us this term.

We have completed our first full week back at school and Years 1 to 6 are now attending full time. Our Reception pupils joined us from Thursday and are starting their transition to full time, with our Nursery re-opening to new children this week. Whole school attendance for our first week back was almost 90%, which is a good start and now we need to improve on this so that **no children are missing out on school.**

I would like to thank you for your support and your patience with the new systems which we have put in place to make sure your children are as safe as possible when they come to school. As you know we have introduced staggered starts and end times for all year groups and we know this has not been easy for many families getting used to standing in lines outside the school gates and having to wait for your children who have different timings from each other. This system has improved as the days have gone by and is now running much more smoothly. However I do need to remind you how

important it is to be on time to drop off and pick up your children because being late can disrupt the smooth transition in and out of the school.

You will find our school risk assessment and our FAQ sheet for parents about all of our protective measures and what to do if your child or a family member becomes ill with COVID like symptoms on our website. I would like to remind you that the most important things that you can do to keep your children and others safe at this time is to:

- Keep your child at home if they have COVID symptoms – a new persistent cough, a fever, loss of smell or taste – and book a COVID TEST by calling 119
- Tell us immediately if your child or a member of your household tests positive for COVID and make sure your whole family self isolates following government guidance
- Practice good hand hygiene at all times – ask your child to show you how they wash their hands at school and make sure everyone in your household is doing this too!



- Remember social distancing – please keep 2 metres apart from others whenever you can and do this when you are waiting outside the school gates at the beginning and end of the day
- Wear a mask or face covering if you cannot keep distance of 2 metres to protect yourself and others

Reporting Children's Absence

Please could you report your child(ren)'s absence to the School Office and not their class teachers.

New School Website

Over the summer break we have designing a new school website to make it easier for you to find the information you need about the school and your children's learning. **As parents cannot come into the school unless they have an appointment.** We are putting all of our forms and help sheets onto our new website in a special section called "Virtual Office". You will also be able to find out more about your child's learning from the website. <https://www.belmont.harrow.sch.uk/>

Later in this Newsletter you will find a Quick Guide to helping your child access our online learning. We will not be sending out paper copies of Home Learning and you will find this online every week from now on. Our online learning will be continuous and this will be how we support your children's learning if their class bubble or year group has to self-isolate a fellow due to a fellow pupil or their teacher testing positive for COVID.



Year Group Newsletters

Year Group Newsletters will also be posted online at the end of this week. These will tell you when your child's class has PE, and will give you a curriculum overview for this term. **As you cannot meet your child's teacher at this time please contact the school Office by phone or email if you need to get any messages to them or ask any questions.**

Our Breakfast and After School Club, run by ACE will be re-opening from 21st September and you will receive an email shortly with details of opening times and contact details for the Club. Please call ACE direct if you have any questions about the Club and want to book a place for your child.

The whole staff team is looking forward to working in partnership with you again this year and making your children's learning exciting, relevant so that they can catch up after such a long break and make great progress.



School start and Finishing Times – Reminder

	Start Time:	Finish Time	Drop off and collection point:
Year 6	8.30am	2.55pm	Vehicle access next to car park
Year 5	8.30am	2.55pm	Front car park
Year 4	8.40am	3.05pm	Vehicle access next to car park
Year 3	8.40am	3.05pm	Front car park
Year 2	8.50am	3.15pm	Vehicle access next to car park
Year 1	8.50am	3.15pm	Front car park
Stargazers	9.30am	2.30pm	Stargazer entrance
Reception	10am	2pm	Reception Outdoor
Nursery am	9.30am	11.30am	Nursery gate
Nursery pm	12.45pm	2.45pm	Nursery gate

Parents will only be allowed to drop off and collect pupils to the teachers at the allocated times set above. If you have children in other year groups, they will only be allowed in school at the correct times - No parents will be allowed to wait on the school site.

Parents must wait outside the main school gates between drop offs and ensure that they are following social distancing measures and staying at least 1 meter plus apart. When walking around the one-way system, we expect parents to maintain the 2 meter distance and follow the floor markings.

Can we request that only 1 parent comes on site to drop and collect children. This will help ease congestion.

If you are collecting multiple children, please can you

collect your child at the allocated time and join the end of the queue and wait patiently.

A member of the Senior Leadership Team will be on duty to help make sure this runs smoothly and it very important that you leave the school site as soon as you have your child for us to provide a safe environment for all.

Contact Details - Safeguarding

We MUST have up to date contact numbers for you for home and work so that we can reach you or a close relative if your child becomes unwell or if there is a school emergency. We were unable to reach all families via the school Text to Parents service last term when we had to close the school, so please help us to safeguard your children by providing latest phone numbers email and home addresses.

Free School Meal Eligibility Checker

A website has been developed for Parents to check whether their child qualifies for free school meals. Please check even if your child receives meals under the Universal Free Schools Meal scheme. **If your child is currently on the free school meal list you will also need to register on the website.** If you need any help please come to the school office.

We urge all parents to check so the school can receive extra funding.

The link is <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/>

**Safeguarding remains
'EVERYONES BUSINESS AT
BELMONT SCHOOL.'**

Harrow Children Services' Golden Number is available to everyone, and gives people one number to call for information or advice on services for children, young people and their families.

Golden Number: 020 8901 2690.

Warm Welcome to Belmont Office Team and a hello from staff you know already:

Ms M Avhad - Interim Business & Personnel Manager

Mrs K Mepani - Receptionist

Ms Zahra Karimjee - Administrator

Ms S Reid - Administrator

Please contact the Office Team on:

Email address:

office@belmont.harrow.sch.uk

Telephone: 02084270903

