



MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for your support and understanding in what has been a difficult week. A very special thank you to parents and carers of Reception, year 3, year 5, year 6 and those of any identified close contacts who were asked to isolate. Again, your support has made a very difficult job much easier to manage - thank you. Please do rest assured that we are working with Public Health England (PHE), Bromley Council and the relevant agencies as and when we need to.

On Monday, I sent a letter to parents and carers of children in reception to year 6 which detailed our approach to reintroducing homework. Our focus for homework is very much on developing and embedding key skills. We will be seeking feedback from parents and carers about this new approach, at the end of the summer term.

We had a fabulous "French Day" in school on Tuesday. After enjoying a virtual French Day assembly, children turned their classrooms into the style of a french cafe. Fun was had by children and staff across the school as they created menus, tasted French foods and had a go at speaking to each other in French. Thank you to Mrs Lucas, Modern Foreign Languages Lead, for organising an exciting and engaging day for the children to remember! Please see our article on page 2 to find out more.

Throughout this week, we have also held virtual meetings with our new reception - to - be families who are starting with us in September - it is always such a pleasure to welcome new families to our school community. We are very much looking forward to meeting them all in person at our series of taster and settling sessions soon.

Although Mrs Sanford has been working remotely from home; she officially leaves us today to start her maternity leave. We are ALL very excited and cannot wait to hear the pitter-patter of tiny feet! On behalf of all the staff and children here, I wish Mrs Sanford and her husband all the very best on this next and very exciting chapter in their lives.

I would also like to draw your attention to 'Break the Rules' day that is being organised by the Friends of Biggin Hill Primary School. This is going to be a really fun event for the children and staff - we are all looking forward to entering into the spirit of the day! Please do try and support this event as much as you can.

Finally, you may or may not be aware, Mr Chotai, Headteacher at Charles Darwin School and head of Charles Darwin Academy Trust

Continued...

WELL DONE

**Well done to all
our children for
working
exceptionally hard.**

**Have a wonderful
half term break!**

*Mrs Freeman, Mrs Lawrence
and all the staff at Biggin
Hill Primary School.*

DIARY DATES

Friday 28th May:

Last day of term

Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

Half term

Monday 7th June:

Back to school

Friday 11th June:

Break the Rules Day (organised
by the Friends of BHPS)

MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN

... continued

(CDAT) has announced that he will be retiring on 31st December 21. We are very fortunate to have been able to draw on Mr Chotai's wealth of knowledge and experience and he has been a particular support to me as a new headteacher. We are enormously grateful for the time and commitment he has given to our school since our school became part of the Charles Darwin Academy Trust. Our school is in an exceptionally strong position and myself and the governors, the senior leadership team and staff want nothing more than to take our school forward on its continued journey to be an outstanding school.

As this half-term draws to a close, I would like to thank you all for your continued support. On behalf of the staff and children, I wish everyone an enjoyable half-term break. I look forward to seeing you on Monday 7th June.

My very best wishes,

Mrs Freeman

Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead



Bonjour
French Day, 25th May

On French Day, each class enjoyed turning classrooms into French Cafes.

Children created menus, signs for the cafe, table numbers, learnt appropriate phrases and enjoyed a lesson with the cafe open. The children took it in turns to be the customers, waiters and chefs.

Children have had fun learning through doing and served each other croissants, pain au chocolats, baguettes, jam, butter and orange juice - everyone had the opportunity to try something!

Mrs Lucas, Modern Foreign Languages Lead



BUSHCRAFT

Our Adventure



Last Wednesday a very excited group of Year 4 and 5 children set off to Penshurst Place to experience their Bushcraft adventure. We were in separate camps, but had the opportunity to enjoy the same activities. The people who ran Bushcraft were fabulous, teaching us new things and making us laugh constantly with silly songs and games.

We learned how to build and light a fire. Did you know you could start a fire with a battery and wire wool? Then we cooked our lunch on the fire. We built shelters that we intended to sleep in, used knives to make tent pegs from sticks and learnt some emergency first aid.



It was cold at night, but with as many as eight in a tent we were able to keep warm. We were also able to chat, which meant we (and some of the teachers who could hear us) were very tired on Thursday.



Sadly, on Thursday morning, we were told we would have to leave Bushcraft, as they were expecting winds so strong that it would not be safe to stay amongst all the trees. Even the Bushcraft staff had to evacuate.

We returned home, disappointed we had to cut our adventure short, but tired and happy about the experiences we had shared. By the way, can you play the stick game?



Year 4 and 5 Bushcraft teaching team

YEAR 4 AND 5 FUN WEEK

Our fun in school



It was fun and games for the year 4 and 5 children that stayed in school too, there was an opportunity for some lively painting in the playground (and some very messy clothes!). We played some team building games with some muddled puzzles and even had time for a party on a piece of paper. There was a Domino's Pizza delivery for lunch giving us all the chance for a well earned rest ready for some fun on the trim trail in the afternoon.



ICT was great for the small groups on Thursday as they got to have a go at stop motion, learning skills for film making. A whole morning/afternoon of sports allowed everyone the chance to burn off some energy before heading home ready for their day in forest school on Friday.



Mrs English, SCITT Student

On Friday the children had an eventful bushcraft day in forest school. Their first challenge was to build shelters in small groups to keep them dry from the rain. They then had a bushcraft breakfast consisting of scrambled eggs, baked beans and jam on toast in base camp (after saying they weren't hungry they managed to eat all the food).

We then moved on to making bushcraft bracelets which some found very tricky but stuck with it. It was then time for hot chocolate at base camp and some singing. Afterwards, they had a little free time to enjoy their shelters they had made. Lunch time came and due to the high winds we were unable to make fires outside but had hot dogs, burgers and fries inside which they seemed to really enjoy.



We then went back outside in the rain and played some nature bingo in small groups with prizes for the winners. We finished off playing some games then hot chocolate, marshmallows and cream. Even though the weather was bad we managed to stay outside all day and it was lovely to see the children all having fun. Myself, Mrs Mew and Lucy really enjoyed our day with them.

Mrs Greenslade, Forest School Lead



PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Please can we ask
parents/carers to
park and drive
respectfully outside our

school. Please be aware of the following
restrictions outside our school.

VOLUNTEERING

Opportunities

Thank you very much to all our volunteers
that have been helping at school.

If you would like to volunteer with us,
please email:

s.helps@bigginhillps.com

COMMUNITY GOVERNOR

We have a vacancy for a Community Governor

A community governor cannot be a
parent or carer of a child at the school
currently but they may be associated
with the school in another way eg. a
grandparent or local resident.

If you know someone who might be
interested in finding out a little bit more
about the role of a community governor,
please ask them to get in touch with me.

Thank you

Mrs Freeman

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01959 575846

COVID-19 UPDATES AND USEFUL LINKS

The government has announced that parents and carers of primary aged children can access rapid lateral flow testing. Regular testing of people without symptoms is important to help stop the spread of the virus, protect loved ones and is in the interest of public safety. More information can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Further guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

There is also a very useful 'How we will move out of lockdown' easy read guide which has been produced by the Cabinet Office - see below:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/965011/COVID-19_Response_-_Spring_2021_Summary_-_Easy_Read_.pdf

A poster displaying information about COVID-19 Restrictions in England from 29 March:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-restrictions-posters-29-march-2021?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=6de36c48-6546-4e39-8cd7-c14c38c06421&utm_content=immediately

IMPORTANT NOTE We are working hard to keep everyone as safe as possible in school. I must ask that if your child or a family member within the household is unwell with any of the key symptoms, please keep your children at home and follow the government guidance. This is very important for us **all** in making sure everyone is as safe as possible. **Mrs Freeman and Mrs Lawrence**