

Benhurst Primary School

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Head teacher: Mr D. Denchfield BA (Hons) NPQH

Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

It has been really great to see you all this week and come together again as a school community and lovely to see the children together and to hear the buzz of a vibrant and busy school; something we have dearly missed since late March. Whilst we are still limited by some restrictions, it is really great to be back! Your children have been fantastic and settled really quickly back into school life - we have been hugely impressed and are very proud of them!

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new children and staff who have joined us today. I hope you will all be very happy at Benhurst and enjoy being part of our community.

Summer Works

During the summer break, we embarked on several projects and improvements to our school environment.

The roof replacement works is well underway and on course to be completed by early October. We have also upgraded the lighting and fitted new suspended ceilings in 4G, 4B and 5L. In addition, we have upgraded the children's toilets opposite the music room as well as both staff toilets.

Back gate

Can I request that at the end of the school day, parents and children do not congregate outside the Warren Drive exit. This has caused some congestion and difficulty for a number of parents and local residents. Thank you.

KS2 Planners

Children in KS2 have been provided with a planner, which is to be used as a reading record, homework diary and home/school message book. The book also contains valuable information to support the children's learning and assist parents with homework. The planner must go home and be returned to school every day.

Can I ask parents to sign the home/school agreement on page 1 - thank you!

Walking to school

Should you wish for your child to walk home by themselves and we have not received your written authority previously, please put this in writing to the class teacher or email the school office - office@benhurst.havering.sch.uk. We will then update our school records accordingly.

In order that we can help to keep children as safe as possible:

- We do not allow children in KS1 to walk home without an adult.
- We do not recommend children in Year 3 or 4 walk home without an adult.
- We cannot release children to meet parents in other areas of the school without written consent.

Water Bottles

Please remember we only allow school water bottles in school. These can be purchased via the School Office. Replacement lids are 50p and replacement water containers are £1-30.

Prospective Parents Tour for September 2021 intake

For parents who have children eligible to start at primary school in September 2021, we have small weekly tours starting next week and running through to January 2021. Further details can be found via the school website. <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/school-admission/>

TikTok update

I wanted to make you aware that there is a shocking online film of a man who live streamed his own suicide. Whilst the original post has been removed, the film has been viewed, re-filmed and shared. TikTok are very actively removing more content, but the nature of the film - people filming themselves watching it, means it is hard to identify and many versions remain available. Should you have any concerns regarding this with your child and require my support, please do get in contact.

Twitter - @benhurstprimary

We look forward to showcasing our children and school this year through Twitter - we now have over 1300 followers and continue to grow in popularity. Also, if your child/children do anything outside of school that you are proud of, please tag us into your tweet and I will retweet.

Key Dates

These are also on the school calendar - <https://benhurst.havering.sch.uk/calendar/calendar>

Monday 14 th September	-	YR start at school (part time)
Monday 5 th October	-	YR start full-time
Thursday 8 th October	-	Individual photographs (letter to follow)
Monday 19 th October	-	P/Evening & Termly Learning Conferences (3:30 to 5:00)
Tuesday 20 th October	-	P/Evening & Termly Learning Conferences (3:30 to 5:00)
Thursday 22 nd October	-	P/Evening & Termly Learning Conferences (3:30 to 7:00)
Friday 23 rd October	-	Final day of half term (My last day!) 😞
Monday 2 nd November	-	Return from half term (8:45 start)

Finally, I would like to thank you for your co-operation and support with our reopening and the changes we have been required to make. We do not know how long the restrictions will be in place for and we are acutely aware that government guidance may change with very little notice - You will have seen this week the revised guidance starting on Monday regarding social gatherings. Whilst this does not affect schools, it is an example of how we must remain agile to any new developments and communicate any changes with you as quickly as possible.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact should you require any additional information or have any queries.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D Denchfield
Head teacher

