



**PRIDE IN ALL WE DO**

<http://www.primaryschoolsnorthdevon.co.uk/website>

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**6<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

## School News

### A message from Mrs. Denham

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. We hope you had a lovely half term break. What a unusual term we find ourselves in again as we move into lockdown 2.0.

**Thank you for your continued support and understanding during these difficult times.** The wonderful thing is that the children seem to be coping with all the changes and unusual situations so very well. We are very proud of them.

Obviously with moving into a second lockdown, we are continuing to follow all our risk assessments and guidance.

- 1) Staff are constantly cleaning, reducing movement around the school and some are now wearing masks or visors.
- 2) We are doing everything we can to ensure health and safety guidance is being followed. Your children are hand washing and sanitising continually throughout the day and we are encouraging them to socially distance as much as possible.
- 3) Throughout the day we are opening the doors and windows to ensure good ventilation throughout the school. Please can you ensure your child is warmly dressed for school!
- 4) Gary Chown, the CEO of Ventrus has written an important letter concerning lockdown which is attached to this newsletter.
- 5) Further to this letter, can we please remind parents to socially distance at all times during drop-off and pick up and ensure that younger children remain close to parents at all times.
- 6) Please do not let them play around with other children, climb and move away from you.
- 7) If possible, it would be beneficial to reduce the numbers of people at the gates too - so could only one parent/carer drop off and pick up please.
- 8) Please could parents only arrive at the allocated times for drop off and pick up and then leave the school area as soon as you have collected your child.
- 9) Please **do not** congregate around the gate so children have to walk through adults to get home.
- 10) If you need to speak to an adult for any length, please phone the school office rather than speak on the playground.

- 11) If any parent has to come into the school office entrance for any reason, we please request that they wear a face mask.

All teachers are looking forward to virtually meeting you next week on Teams for your **child's parent conference**. Thank you to those parents who have got on and booked via Arbor.

Thank you for bearing with us and supporting us whilst we **transition to these different IT platforms**. Staff are having to work so hard to implement these changes. This is new territory for us all and I am very proud of all the staff for so willingly learning about Microsoft Teams and working out ways to make this blended learning successful for your children. Every pupil from Y1 to Y6 has been set up on Microsoft Teams. We have written about this in previous newsletters. We **URGE** you to get onto Teams. The children are really enjoying getting to use aspects of it in school.

We know several parents have encountered problems with Teams and we thank you for coming to us about them. We have managed to sort most issues out with our families.

We thank our **wonderful PTA** for putting so much energy and effort into various fundraising ideas for the school. Please take a look at their ideas further in this newsletter. We are so grateful to them all.

### **Admissions Policy consultation 2022 -2023**

**The consultation period for the 2022 – 2023 - Bratton Fleming admissions policy began on the 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2020 The consultation period ends on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2021.**

Below you will see a link to our proposed admissions policy for 2022-23

<https://bratton-fleming.eschools.co.uk> and found on the Homepage under 'Links and Downloads'

We are consulting on this between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020 and 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and invite any parent or other person with an interest in our admission arrangements to read the policy and make any comments you wish. You will see where there are changes, the text is in red – either something we propose to add or, if it has a line through it, something we propose to remove.

One of the proposals is to add children who have been adopted from state care outside of England to our oversubscription criterion 1. This is in anticipation that the Department for Education will require this change for all schools as it has just consulted on changes to the School Admissions Code. It is possible that the Department's timescales may mean that the Code is not amended before the end of February, when we have to formally set our policy. If that is the case, we may have to determine our policy without that change and then alter it later in spring or summer. We are bringing it to your attention though as a change in policy that we expect to have to introduce.

Other than changes in red and dates moving forward a year, the way our policy will work is the same as in the previous year, 2021-22.

Any response you may have to this consultation should be sent to Mrs. Denham. ([susan.denham@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:susan.denham@ventrus.org.uk))

Further information is at [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements). You will be able to view the proposed policies for all state-funded schools in Devon and the Local Authorities policies there too.

## **School News**

### **Food and Financial Support for Families in Need**

The impact of the coronavirus pandemic is continuing to put a huge financial strain on some people. Employment situations are changing rapidly and for some their income now no longer covers what they need or they have lost their jobs completely.

Help is available. If you know someone who is worrying about money and how to pay for basic household essentials, please encourage them to apply for extra assistance through funding made available by Devon County Council via your District Council's hardship fund.

To find out more about what support is available in Devon, including how to access local financial support, healthy start vouchers and free school meals, where to find foodbanks and community larders, free meals during the school holidays and what to do if you're on a low income and need to self-isolate, [please visit Devon County Council's website](#).

### **Certificates**

Congratulations to all children who received certificates in assembly today.

### **Tempest Photographer**

Owing to the current lockdown the photographer will not be visiting on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

## Flu Immunisation

Your child is eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu vaccination. If you have not already booked your child's vaccination, please do so using this link. <https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

# Bratton Fleming School is a NO NUT Zone

## Dates for your diary

9 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Tempest Photographer POSTPONED
4 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Flu Immunisation
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Last day of Term
5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Spring Term begins
15 <sup>th</sup> February to 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Half Term
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	Last Day of Term
19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Summer Term begins
3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021	Spring Bank Holiday
28 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Non Pupil Day
31 <sup>st</sup> May to 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Half Term
23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2021	Last Day of Term

## PTA News

Please see poster attached from the PTFA 'Remember Me'

## Community News

### Christmas Toy Bank

A Christmas toy bank is available with the aim of helping families in the local area. If you feel that you would benefit, please email Mrs Lake, [brattonfleming@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:brattonfleming@ventrus.org.uk) with the following information.

Your name: number of children in family, their ages and their genders.

Closing dates for referrals is the 30<sup>th</sup> November. Toys will be isolated for two weeks, then wrapped labelled, placed in bags for each family, and delivered to school. They will be placed in the shelter on the bottom playground. Mrs Lake will then notify you by email to come and collect your bag of toys

### Bratton Fleming Pre-School

It is Disney week at Pre-School!! The children have enjoyed so many wonderful activities including crown and tiara making, making Rapunzel's hair bread rolls, magic mirrors and fruit wands! The children have spent some time playing with Elsa's frozen hands, discussing how cold they were and estimating how long they thought it would take for them to melt. It really has been a magical Disney week! Of course we have had our usual activities out and the children have been using great team work skills and turn taking too! We have been wrapping up warm and spending time outside, chasing friends, peddling the bikes and practicing our climbing skills. We are looking forward to wearing our pyjamas next week and exploring space!

We now take children from 0-5yrs we have a lovely designated 'Bunnies' area for our under 2s, we currently have spaces for all ages.