

Mrs Bennett's Blog

Thursday 6th January 2022

Hi Everyone,

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful festive period and are now refreshed and energised for the Spring Term ahead. We have begun the term with some very exciting trips to the theatre at the Alhambra this week. I am delighted that we have been able to go ahead with these trips and for our children to have the opportunity to visit the theatre, some for the very first time!

I know you are as keen as we are to keep our school operating as close to normally, as we navigate through this next phase of Covid through this 'bumpy' patch of road. Currently our numbers of positive cases remain low. For this to continue **it is crucial** that should your child display any Covid Symptoms you lateral flow your child rather than bringing them to school and risking the spread of infection. If everyone remains cautious and isolates when required, we just might be able to ride this storm through to Spring without far reaching disruption. As you may have heard in the news yesterday, you no longer need to use a PCR to confirm a lateral flow test if you are without symptoms and the period of isolation is now 7 days as long as you have negative lateral flow tests on day 6 and 7. I know it's ever changing and difficult to keep up with, if you need any advice, please do just call school and we will guide you through the current guidance.

With the weather being much colder now that we are in the depths of Winter, please ensure that your children bring appropriate hats, gloves, scarves and coats, which are labelled to ensure they are toasty when they are outside in the cold weather. The forecast also keeps hinting at perhaps some snow over the coming days, at school we make every endeavour to remain open during adverse weather. However, it is important if the weather forecast predicts heavy snow, that all families regularly check their phones and our school website as, in the rare event that we have to close the school we will communicate this to you via text message and Class Dojo in the first instance and publish this on our website. It is never an easy decision to close our school but the health and safety of everyone must come first. We would of course inform you of any decisions at the earliest possible time in order for families to make any necessary arrangements. Obviously, we grit as quickly as we can during periods of ice and snow, gritting the main entrances and exits first but please take every precaution as you journey into school on these wintery mornings.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding our children is fundamental to all we do at Crossflatts Primary School and something we take extremely seriously. As it is the beginning of a new term, I just wanted to remind you who are responsible for ensuring everyone's safety and wellbeing. If you ever have any concerns about any child in our school these are the people who will be able to help you immediately. We also have a 'safeguarding concern' button on our website where you can also report concerns.

Designated Safeguarding Leads



Nicola Bennett – Head teacher



Nina Dobson – Deputy Head teacher



Rebecca Petrie – Deputy Head teacher



Laura Reynolds – Assistant Head teacher



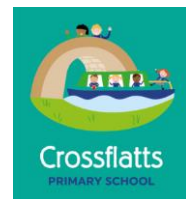
Richard Atkins – Assistant Head teacher



Gemma Craven – Year 2 Teacher



Jo Cattell – Learning Mentor



There have been several tragic cases in previous years, where schools had not chased up the reasons for a child's absence. It has then transpired that there have been tragic circumstances around these absences and the child was too young to raise the alarm and get help. Because of cases like the ones described above, it is now statutory that all schools have at least 3 emergency contacts within their records for each child and practise the following protocol:

If your child is not going to be in school please call the office on 01274 782070 or email the school at office@crossflatts.bradford.sch.uk to report their absence. If we have not heard from you by 9.00am, then we will start to call all the contact numbers that you have provided in order to gain an explanation for the absence. If we still have not been able to ascertain where your child is, then we will make a home visit to ensure the family are all safe. Thank you for supporting school with reporting any absence as early as possible.

Finally, a plea that it is really important that you order your child's lunches through the Innovate website should you wish for your child to have a school lunch, this needs to be ordered the Saturday before the week commencing so that the kitchen can ensure they have adequate supplies available to serve at lunch. Even if your child is in Reception or Key Stage 1 and entitled to a free school lunch, an order with innovate still needs to be placed so that you know what your child is eating for lunch and to ensure the kitchen are able to order the correct amount of supplies.

Here's to a great year everyone, wishing you all the very best for 2022.

Mrs Bennett

Headteacher