

# Barns Green Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

### Half a Term in...

I thought it would be useful to take time to reflect on the work and successes of these first few weeks, post-lockdown, and consider the challenges to come.

First of all, we were selected as one of many school for a spot check of our COVID-compliant work by the **Health and Safety Executive**. I am delighted to report that we are '**compliant**'. That brings with it the usual note of caution these days – anything and everything could change. Our safety plan is a document which we review update on nearly a weekly basis. We will continue to make sure that we don't become complacent.

That is only part of our story.

We are not just a safe place for children, we are a safe place *where children come to learn*. This half term we have carried out a range of **assessments** and looked at the whole school picture. As can be expected after lockdown, there are now gaps in children's learning. Mrs Aitken (Maths lead) and Mrs Newbold (English lead) have identified areas class teachers need to focus on to close those gaps and these are being built into teacher's planning. For example, multiplication facts remains a focus for most in Years 3, 4 & 5. Grammatical knowledge is another area, and we have adopted the *Classroom Secrets* scheme to ensure that these gaps can be filled. Your child's teacher will discuss the next steps for your child in the 'phone conversation next week.

Extra funding is being made available to schools and Mrs Newbold and I are looking at the best way to spend this.

The following page captures children's experience during a whole school day in our COVID-restricted times. Thanks to Mrs Newbold for compiling this.

Before I hand over to the children, a quick reminder that there are 2 PTA activities next week. On Monday it's pumpkin judging day – children should bring their pumpkins to school and leave them by the hedge outside of their classroom. Friday is Halloween Hair Day!





What do you like about school this term?

The topics are really fun.

The World War Two day – everyone came dressed differently

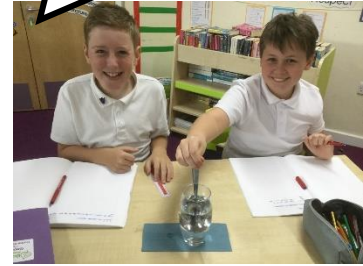
Being creative with writing, stories, reports and diaries.

What do you like about school?

Being with friends, socialising with friends the same age, learning, sport, P.E, writing stories...

Key Stage 2

I was restless at home and now I am extended.



What do you like about school this term?

Being in year 6 – you have more trust and freedom. The teachers give you the right work, they know if you are confident and challenge you.

Key Stage 2

It's good to back at school we have a new teacher and she is nice and kind.

I can count in French!



It's easier to see the board with tables in a row, it helps you to learn more.

Year 2

I don't like not mixing with friends from other classes on the playground.

The tables are better like this, you so you can concentrate. There is less talking and arguing.

Key Stage 2

We love iPads

I loved marbling

Year 2

There's lots of fun Reception



I'm not stuck anymore!



Some things are different: bubbles, hand gel, not sharing so we feel safe.

I feel safe, I feel like a super hero!

Year 2

We're here to learn stuff and respect

Year 1

I come to school to learn, play nicely and be kind to friends.

Reception child