

### Summer 2021

Good morning and a very warm welcome back to school to all Berrywood families. The weather looks relatively set fair for the week and hopefully this is a good sign for the summer ahead. Hopefully we can also look forward to a term far less disrupted by closures. Our aim for the coming weeks and months is to restore as much of *The Berrywood Way* curriculum as possible. This means a busy school and the prospect of children, and parents, increasingly able to access activities and opportunities.

So much of course is dependent on Coronavirus cases being very low and isolated within our school community. We are also reliant on the national roadmap going ahead as intended in order to go ahead with some traditional key events such as: *project celebrations*, an *end of year production* and *sports days*. We will try to provide parents with as much up front information as possible, but please also do be patient with us as uncertainty will remain the challenging backdrop to school life for the foreseeable future.

### Parents' Evenings

These are taking place on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April (TR6 will be held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April) next week. This term our parents' evenings will be held remotely via a Google Meet link. A separate communication is being sent out today providing parents with details of how to book an appointment slot on Scopay and also explaining how to access the Google Meet. Meeting codes will be sent prior to the meetings. Any parents unable to make appointments on the days above will be offered alternative dates and times.

These meetings will provide the opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress and development, especially since schools reopened on March 8<sup>th</sup>. We would have loved to have made these meetings face to face, but I know that you will understand why this isn't yet really possible.

There are a few protocols to be aware of: -

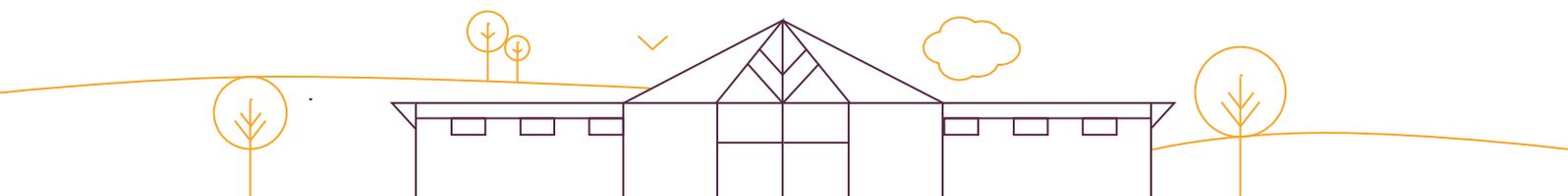
- Please be aware that in the interests of fairness to everyone, we will need to rigidly stick to the allocated time limits for each slot.
- We highly recommend having ready any questions and topics you wish to raise.
- These meetings are not to be attended by the children, unless of course it is unavoidable.
- Please be reasonably dressed for the occasion (especially staff).

### Extra-Curricular Clubs

Our intention is to introduce the opportunity for children of all ages across the school to join after school extra-curricular clubs with effect from the week beginning Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. We very much hope these will build on the very successful launch of physical activity clubs for Year 5 and 6 pupils which took place at the end of last term.

The clubs will be quite broad ranging from visual and performing arts, through to sports and nature based activities. Some will be run by external agencies and others will be run by members of staff from Berrywood. The external agencies will organise their own payment arrangement with families. There will not be any charge for clubs run by Berrywood staff. As a school team we are really determined to boost the wellbeing of the children and see this type of provision as an excellent way of achieving that.

There are quite a lot of logistics to work through over the coming days, but we aim to be in a position to finalise the offers to families by this Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The now very popular 'Google Form' will be sent out to parents **this Friday** and used to collate your requests for places. We are asking for these forms to be completed by **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> at the latest** in order that we can confirm places prior to the clubs beginning in the following week.



At this stage I would like to highlight that it is very unlikely that we will be able to precisely balance the offers being made to children in different year groups. This remains a time where we have to be vigilant in managing the risk of Coronavirus transmission, and therefore club numbers will be limited and we will not mix children from different year groups. This will not prevent us from putting together a really healthy and positive package of opportunities which will hopefully benefit a good number of our children.

#### **Parent Volunteers**

I just wanted to say a massive public thank you to the parent volunteers who helped to run the physical activities for children in Years 5 & 6 in the lead up to Easter. In all, we provided over 600 hours of sporting activity for 150 children taking part. It was also lovely to see some parent volunteers helping with the cooking part of the Year 6 Mexican project. The atmosphere and involvement in both cases was lovely to see. Hopefully, circumstances will allow us to extend these types of situations into the summer term.

#### **Maunsell Way Crossing Patrol**

A reminder to all families that Eastleigh Borough Council are still trying to fill the vacant crossing patrol position. Although members of staff from Berrywood have been at the crossing most days to help keep it safe, we are not always able to be there and therefore parents cannot not rely on this. Please can everyone be really mindful of the dangers this situation poses.

#### **Midday Supervisors**

We currently have vacancies for Midday Supervisory Assistants. Please visit the school website [www.berrywood-pri.hants.sch.uk](http://www.berrywood-pri.hants.sch.uk) for further details. Alternatively, please telephone the school office on 01489 780068 for more information and to arrange a meeting with us.

#### **A Few Reminders**

Please could you telephone the school office to report your child's absence from school or for non-attendance at a club rather than sending a Dojo message.

If your child is displaying symptoms of Coronavirus please do not use the Lateral Flow Tests and book a PCR test.