



FARNBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Farnborough Hill, Farnborough, Orpington, Kent BR6 7EQ

Telephone 01689 853295 Fax 01689 889286

Email: admin.office@farnborough.bromley.sch.uk

Website: www.farnboroughprimary.co.uk

Miss A James BA PGCE Head Teacher

Mrs C Browne B.Ed Hons Head of School

12 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

As you are now aware, we unfortunately will not be welcoming back our lovely children from years two, three, four and five. We are all so so sad that we will not see most of them until at least September. Whilst it has been so nice to welcome back some of the children from the school; it just doesn't feel the same without all of them here. We miss their laughs, smiles, news, chats and wonderful work. I miss the children nervously coming to my office to see if they have managed to achieve 'a hard to come by' pen license and running and skipping away down the corridor when they realise that they have got their special blue card. I miss saying goodbye to them all on a Friday afternoon, mostly with sweets in their mouths, with their slightly disheveled uniform. It's funny the things you realise you miss...but most of all we just miss our school being filled with your wonderful and happy children.

So we have now come to the end of week two and we have welcomed back some of our year six children. They of course, as always have been fantastic and it's been lovely to see their smiles! We are very much looking forward to saying 'hello' to some more year six children on Monday and some, hopefully very excited reception children too!

We are now able to confirm (unless we receive any other Government announcements) years one and six will remain at school until Friday 17 July 2020. Year 1 will continue each week and Year 6 on the rota basis we have in place.

As you are aware, we have been phoning many families during the lockdown. If your child is attending Zoom lessons or school, we will not call you as frequently.

This week has also seen the start of some of our Zoom lessons and interactions with the children. The teachers have loved seeing the children again albeit through a computer screen. Thank you for your patience with us as we get used to this new way of interacting with the children. Please note that timetables and passwords will be posted on our website and emailed to you accordingly by 3:30 every Friday for the following week. Where possible we will always try to avoid clashes, but unfortunately, due to many factors, there will be some unavoidable clashes in timetables. In order to assist the start time of lessons we will now ask the class teachers to open up the waiting rooms slightly earlier to allow children a little more time to gain access as we know some have experienced delays in connectivity. We will also ensure the lessons end promptly.

I know that this has been an exceptionally sad, unsettling, stressful and highly frustrating time for everyone. We have never been in a situation like this in our lifetime, and hopefully we never will be again. For many families life will never be the same and I completely understand that there are many anxieties about so many different things at the moment.



Farnborough Primary School is a member of **Nexus Education Schools Trust**

Nexus Education Schools Trust (NEST) is a charitable company

limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales

Company Number 08753718.

The registered office is at Worsley Bridge Primary School, Brackley Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1RF.

National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership



FARNBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Farnborough Hill, Farnborough, Orpington, Kent BR6 7EQ

Telephone 01689 853295 Fax 01689 889286

Email: admin.office@farnborough.bromley.sch.uk

Website: www.farnboroughprimary.co.uk

Miss A James BA PGCE Head Teacher

Mrs C Browne B.Ed Hons Head of School

Children returning to school is being heavily covered in the media (sometimes, and sometimes not, very accurately) Contrary to what the media have said about teachers in general, the staff at Farnborough have unequivocally risen to this challenge and all the other challenges I have thrown at the over the past months and weeks. At the start of Lockdown, I said 'Home Learning' they all said 'of course' I said 'Zoom lessons' they mumbled 'of course' I said 'Home deliveries, phone calls, cleaning' Each and every time, my staff said 'of course, what else can we do to help?' Despite any personal difficulties the staff have gone through during this time they have ALL supported the school and its children with the love and care they always show when the children are in the building.

Due to having very little notice regarding the direction of travel of education some of our plans and decisions have not always gone smoothly and will not always please everyone. I do not make any decision to cause any upset or distress; I have to work within the remit that we are given. This means that we are now teaching, planning, marking, setting home learning, zooming, cleaning to name but a few items on our list. This means that we do not have the time anymore to put work up on the website until 8am on a Monday as the teachers only have the weekends to plan the work for the following week.

I understand that this has caused stress within some households, but we are very limited in the time that we now have as we are trying to accommodate many different situations simultaneously.

I have received so many heartfelt messages of thanks and understanding for what we are trying to provide for the children; for which each and everyone is so very appreciated, but we have also had a few emails and phone calls that have been quite rude whilst also hearing about parent WhatsApp group chats. Whilst I understand that stress and anxiety levels are high; be kind! We have found these few phone calls, emails and information about the parent WhatsApp groups very upsetting. My staff will always help and go above and beyond for every family, so please do not be impolite to my staff, they are merely following my direction and we really are trying to do the best we can. If you do wish to speak to a member of staff through phone or email regarding an issue, we would be more than happy to talk to you as long as your tone remains polite.

Messages for the children on the fence

Over the next few weeks, we will be writing and putting up messages on our main school gates for our children who are able to attend school. If you are out on your daily walk and happen to be passing the school gates, please do look to see if your child has a message from us.

New key worker class

From Monday 22 June, we are opening another key worker class. Please note that we have a waiting list and the class is already full. If you need a space because you are a critical key worker, please email the admin.office email address and we will call you should a place arise. Again, I completely understand that childcare is an absolute nightmare at the moment with



Farnborough Primary School is a member of **Nexus Education Schools Trust**

Nexus Education Schools Trust (NEST) is a charitable company

limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales

Company Number 08753718.

The registered office is at Worsley Bridge Primary School, Brackley Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1RF.

National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership



FARNBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Farnborough Hill, Farnborough, Orpington, Kent BR6 7EQ

Telephone 01689 853295 Fax 01689 889286

Email: admin.office@farnborough.bromley.sch.uk

Website: www.farnboroughprimary.co.uk

Miss A James BA PGCE Head Teacher

Mrs C Browne B.Ed Hons Head of School

schools still partially closed and more industries being expected to go back to work...but we only have very limited space and staff, therefore I can only offer very few places.

A few events

Over the past few weeks we have organised various virtual events for the children; today's one being Science Day. Please keep a look out for the letters and timetables coming out with details of more events. These will include our Virtual Sports Day, Times Table Rockstars London Battle. Monday morning assemblies, Vocabulary Day to name but a few. These are not compulsory, but we want to try and offer some of the events to the children that we would have done had we all been at school together.

You will all be hearing about many 'ideas' about how and when schools will return. At the moment, we have not been given any information as to when this will be. Please rest assured that we will support any decision to bring back our children safely when the government chooses to share their plans and we will continue to advise you of any updates as soon as we hear them.

Thank you for your continued support and for the amazing work you have been doing with your children.

Please continue to stay safe and look after each other during these very strange times.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best Wishes,

Miss James
Head Teacher



Farnborough Primary School is a member of **Nexus Education Schools Trust**

Nexus Education Schools Trust (NEST) is a charitable company

limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales

Company Number 08753718.

The registered office is at Worsley Bridge Primary School, Brackley Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1RF.

National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership