

# The Borders Partnership of Schools Barnby & North Cove and Glebeland Primary Schools



Academy Head: Mrs Louise Scott. Email: head@bordersprimary.org

## **Dear Families**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you and your children back to Glebeland Primary and Barnby & North Cove Primary. I hope that you had an enjoyable half-term.

We were so pleased to be able to open our doors fully after lockdown and welcome everyone back in September; it has been a wonderful half-term and your children have returned positively and invigorated; ready to learn.

We were extremely busy last half-term creating our new Core Values, Golden Rules and classroom routines. Also, new this year are our positive text messages home and Headteacher reward cards.

The wellbeing of all our pupils is very important and we have prioritised this in our schools' provision. We have protected time in our teaching week for Art, Outdoor Learning and Music all of which have proven benefits for our mental health and wellbeing. Feedback from you has indicated that Outdoor Learning is a provision that both you and your children value. We have our pastoral support worker offering sessions with pupils who may need some weekly 1:1 sessions. We are also making sure that we continue to provide an excellent education for everyone which is equally as important.

Our Pupil Parliament is up and running and we have several projects that they will be working on this year, including a community project further into the Spring term.

## Communication

We have brought back our weekly newsletters with a new look too and as we are missing being able to invite you into our schools, we hope with our new look newsletter, half-termly Headteacher letters and our new websites, we are able to show you what's going on in our schools currently.

Our Facebook and Twitter pages are ready to go and will provide a further avenue of communication. Keep an eye on our weekly newsletters for details on how to access them.

I recognise that communication is vitally important and I hope that through the various avenues available to us, you are receiving the information you require. Again, your thoughts and ideas are welcome.

Part of our planning during these coming weeks is thinking about how we can celebrate the festivities this year with a new approach - any ideas would be greatly received. This will be a challenge but we are adamant that this will not pass us by.

Ambition Community Excellence Positivity Respect

Barnby & North Cove Primary School, The Street, Barnby, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7QB

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## Reporting Pupil Absence

As from this half-term, our approach to reporting pupil absence has been streamlined. Please can you report your child's absence via the school office and not via class teachers. You can phone or email the office and we would appreciate this to happen before 8:40am when our registers close.

If you are running late and you arrive at school **after 8:40am**, please report to the school office with your child where Mrs Ives or Mrs Harrison will be able to update the attendance register. They will then take your child through to their classroom.

If your child has a medical appointment, we would expect your child to attend school until they need collecting and we would expect them to return after their appointment for the rest of the school day.

A flowchart of our first-day calling process will be available shortly on our website and we will forward a copy to you all soon.

## Homework

As a partnership of schools, we are exploring the latest evidence regarding homework and the impact it has on children's learning. We believe that reading at home is vitally important and this will continue as an expectation of home learning. Once we finalise our approach to home learning at Borders, we will update you. In the meantime, if you would like to offer you thoughts and opinions regarding home learning for your child/ren please do not hesitate to email us.

## COVID - latest updates

On Saturday evening our Government announced that we would be entering into a four week lockdown commencing the 5th November. Schools have been asked to remain open during this time. We are awaiting further guidance from the government and the Dfe in the next couple of days and once we are clear about any necessary updates to our practices, I will circulate a further information letter.

In the meantime, I wish you all the very best and I look forward to another wonderful half-term.

Take care

Mrs Scott

Headteacher

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