



*"Nurturing Hearts
and Minds"*

Belthorn Academy Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Rowan

Friday Newsletter

Week Ending: 5th June 2020

★ ★ This week's **BADGE WINNERS**... ★ ★

★ Little Bells – Charlie B

★ Reception – Max

★ Year 1 – Bobby C

★ Year 2 – Beau

★ Year 3 – Rohan

★ Year 4 – Liliana

★ Year 5 – Ewan

★ Year 6 – Matthew P

Welcome to this week's newsletter.....

This has not quite been the week we had expected; last week Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, our Director of Public Health, advised that schools and other early years' settings that it was not yet safe in Lancashire to reopen to more children from Monday 1 June.

Dr Karunanithi will review his advice on Monday 8 June, and if it changes, schools will be encouraged to take the decision to reopen to more pupils from 15 June. If the advice does not change, the guidance will be reviewed again on 15 June.

As soon as LCC advises that it is safe to do so, we will revert to phase 1 opening – inviting Little Bells and Reception back into school followed by Year 1 and then Year 6. We receive daily updates and bulletins from the DFE and from LCC which we look closely at.



There have been a lot more children of key workers attending school this week. Please only send your children in if there is no one at home to be with them. As the numbers have increased, from Monday we will be operating 2 Key Worker groups – one based in the Early Years area of the school for children in Little Bells, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and the other based in Year 4 and the Hall for the older children. The side gate will be open **from 8am** for the younger children – please go round to the red gate where the Reception children usually enter school. The Hall door will be open **from 8am** for the older children. You will need to inform school to see if we have a place as we have been told that we have to stick to the 15 children per group rule. Please ensure you send snacks, a packed lunch and drinks for your child. Also talk to them about handwashing. School will finish at **1pm on Friday 12th, and subsequent Fridays.**



If you haven't already tuned in to our weekly Good Work Assembly, please do so as we are trying to make it fun for the children and it gives them an opportunity for the children to see the teachers. Also please keep emailing in your good work so that it can feature in the gallery for the weekly assembly. Email them to belthorn.homelearning@gmail.com

The Good Work Assembly is posted on the school website and also on Showbie and Facebook. Sometimes it is later on in the day as editing it is quite a challenge.

Thank you once again for everything you are doing at home. We really do appreciate it. This week we have made paper packs available for those children who are struggling with the on-line work. These can be collected from school by arrangement and need to be returned the following week. Please email office@belthornacademy.co.uk if you require a paper pack.

This week we have had Miss Sutton and Mr Carr working with the children who are in school. We have still been trying to get outside when we can, even though the weather has become a lot cooler and wetter. We have also had the Teaching Assistants in school, preparing the school and making sure we are ready for wider opening. The Key Worker groups will be supervised by Teaching Assistants next week.



Thank you for your words of support. Many parents have been in touch to express thanks for what we are doing and it means such a lot to us all. The teachers continue to be working and responding to children as well as undergoing training and writing end of year reports and carrying out their subject leader roles. We are trying to keep in touch via Showbie, email and newsletters and to communicate the current situation as and when things change. The office staff too are working hard either in school or at home to ensure things are running smoothly. We want to have all the children back into school as soon as we can – but we need to follow advice regarding this, and stick to guidance regarding group sizes and staffing. Thank you too for all you are doing with your children at home. We know it isn't easy.



We know that children are on line a lot more than they would normally be at the current time. Please ensure you have all security in place and unsuitable websites are blocked etc. There is advice on the website, but you can contact school if you need more advice.



I heard on the radio this morning that more children are reading books at the moment as it helps to make them feel happy. It is a brilliant way to switch off and also a change from being on an electronic device. Gallery pictures of books you are reading at home would be really good to see. Email them to belthorn.homelearning@gmail.com

And finally Best wishes to Mrs Sutcliff who starts her maternity leave on Monday. We are all excited to hear news of Baby Sutcliff when he or she arrives, and we wish Mr and Mrs Sutcliff and Ruben all the best in the coming weeks. Mrs Drugan will be taking over from Mrs Sutcliff from Monday.

Best wishes,

Mrs Rowan and all the Belthorn Staff