

# BRONTË HOUSE SCHOOL

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16th October 2020

#### **Dear Parents**

The half term holiday is upon us already and we look forward to a very well-deserved break for both children and staff.

Despite the new measures and changes to our working arrangements, the children have enjoyed a very productive and successful six weeks of learning whilst settling into their new Year Group and re-establishing friendships.

I must offer my sincere thanks to our incredible Brontë staff team for their tireless commitment throughout this very challenging period. Whilst the bubble system assists in keeping our school community safe, its impact on staff workload is significant. It is only due to the willingness of staff to take on additional duties that we have been able to provide full wrap around care facilities, both before and after school – provision upon which so many of us are reliant.

As we look forward to the second half of the term, I must update parents of several items and pieces of news.

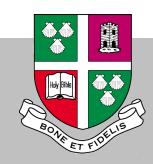
Co-curricular activities will continue in Year Group bubbles following the half term break. There have been a number of changes to the programme; please see below for further details.

	YEARS 1&2									
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri					
<b>Y1</b>	Lego	Drawing	Book Club	Let's Create	Film Club					
<b>Y2</b>	Construction	Computer Club	Drawing Club	Film Club	MULTISPORTS					
YEARS 3&4										
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri					
<b>Y3</b>	Mindfulness	MULTISPORTS	Book Club	Drawing Club	Film Club					
<b>Y4</b>	Book Club	Mindfulness	MULTISPORTS	OUTDOOR EXPLORERS	Film Club					
YEARS 5&6										
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri					
<b>Y5</b>	MULTISPORTS	Mindfulness	Chess Club	Paper craft	Film Club					
<b>Y6</b>	Art Club	Mindfulness	Film Club	MULTISPORTS	Book Club					

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Some re-arrangement of the Games programme is also necessary as we head into Winter to ensure that every bubble has access to a wet weather facility for PE/Games. Children in Years 3 -6 will continue to remain on the Brontë site for all Games lessons and will not be using the Grove facilities in order to reduce the risk of virus spread between the schools. This does not impact the frequency of Games teaching but it does mean that children may require kit on different days. Please see the table below for further details.

DAYS WHEN CHILDREN WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN CURRICULUM SPORTS AND PE KIT MUST BE WORN								
CLASS	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY			
1B	Х	Х						
1H		Х		Х				
2B			X	X	Χ			
2H			X		Χ			
3B		Х	Х		Χ			
3H		Х	X		Χ			
4B		Х	X	Х				
4H		Х	X	Х				
5B	Х	Х			Χ			
5H	Х	Х			Χ			
6B	Х			Х	Χ			
6H	Х			Х	Χ			
6S	X			Х	Χ			

These changes may lead to further amendments to your child's weekly timetable. An updated hard copy of this will be issued in due course after the holiday.

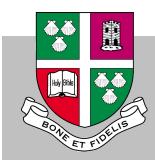
As parents will be aware, we have been keen that the children continue to use their Seesaw skills this term and weekly homework tasks have been set on the Platform. Some families may also have noticed that Zoom meetings have appeared in their child's activity feed in the last few weeks. Whilst both the local and national Covid 'picture' remains deeply concerning, we are keen to move forward with our plans for future remote learning provision, should it be required. Seesaw remains at the core of our off-site provision, though we have been working hard to familiarise both children and staff with Zoom technology in order to allow us to introduce elements of live teaching in English and maths, should a lockdown be announced or a bubble collapse necessary.

Lesson links will continue to be posted to Seesaw accounts throughout next half term. These are for the children to access in school and are not for parental access at this stage. Further guidance will be released, as required.

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November is a busy month for charity events. Please add the dates below to your diary:

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Day (Poppies will be sold from w/c Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> November)

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November** is Anti-Bullying Week and, on the **Friday (20<sup>th</sup>)** we will be holding an Odd Socks and Funky Hair Day. Children will be asked for a donation to be divided between the Anti – Bullying Alliance and Children in Need.

Please remember that children must wear winter uniform when we return.

The School Office will be open 10am – 3pm next week, commencing 19<sup>th</sup> October, to deal with any parental enquiries. It will then be closed for the second week of the holiday.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to all parents for the good wishes and encouraging feedback that we have received this half term. We have done our very best, throughout this challenging period, to ensure that life and learning continues for Brontë children. The close partnerships that exist with our families are central to ensuring the progress, wellbeing and continued success of our school and we are extremely grateful for your support.

With very best wishes for a lovely holiday.

Sarah Chatterton

Head, Brontë House

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