

BRONTË HOUSE SCHOOL

brontehouse.co.uk

7th October 2020

Dear Parents,

I do hope that this communication finds you well. As the weeks roll by and half-term quickly approaches, I am writing to provide an update on several aspects of school life.

Parent Consultations (Reception – Year 6)

These will take place following half term, week commencing Monday 2nd November. This is an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress over the first half term. Due to current restrictions, these will not be conducted in person; parents will have the option of either a Zoom meeting or telephone call.

This usually requires us to suspend all extra-curricular activities for two days. In order to avoid this, and to ensure that after school provision remains unaffected, the Consultations will instead be fitted around staff teaching commitments and duties across the week.

Children will receive a hard copy of the Consultation letter in their bag on Thursday, detailing a range of days and times when staff are available to discuss your child's progress. Some of these times will be during the day and some will be after school and in the evening. Parents will be asked for their first, second and third choice of time and we will do our very best to accommodate all requests. Staff will discuss timings between themselves, to avoid sibling clashes, and a confirmed appointment time will be recorded in your child's diary by Friday 16th October.

Parents of children in Pre-Nursery and Nursery should have received communication from Miss Hargreaves and Mrs Potter regarding baseline assessments. The children will be assessed again after the half-term break and further information will follow regarding children's progress in late November. Tapestry continues to be an essential tool in communicating with parents regarding children's daily achievements and we do hope that you are enjoying receiving the regular updates.

Games Provision

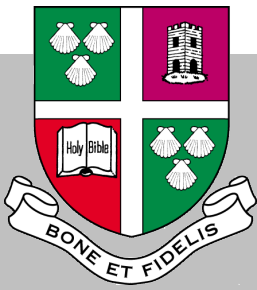
To provide continuity of pupil groupings, we have extended whole class teaching to Games lessons. The children in Years 3 and above are currently enjoying a number of mixed sports in their Games lessons, including Hockey, non-contact Rugby, Football, Netball and 'End Ball': a hybrid of Rugby and Netball that combines skill elements from both games. Within Physical Education lessons, children will continue to focus on functional movement systems and health-related fitness; as well as developing fundamental motor skills through a variety of evasion games, striking and fielding and net/wall games. The children's engagement within lessons has been exemplary and we have seen a real increase in fitness and skill-based competence levels so far this term.

Apperley Bridge, West Yorkshire, BD10 0PQ
Tel: 0113 2502 811 enquiries@brontehouse.co.uk

I am Grovian.



Woodhouse Grove School is part of the Methodist Independent Schools Trust.
Registered Office: Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW15JR.
Charity No. 1142794. Company No. 7649422.



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As the weather turns and the ground becomes soft, can we please request that **all children** in Years 3 and above have **shinpads** and a **mouthguard** in school for Games lessons from half term? These can be purchased online and at local sports shops. Parents do not need to purchase a mouthguard from a dentist as these are a lot more expensive and will need replacing as the children grow. It would also be helpful if **all children** in Years 3 and above have a pair of studded boots in school as this gives us the option of continuing to use the Games field in wet weather and reduces the risk of trips and falls.

Sport is an important aspect of life at Brontë House and we strive to provide as many opportunities as possible for our children to enjoy a competitive sporting environment and represent the school in competitive fixtures. As you are aware, there have been no inter-school fixtures this half term and, given current guidelines and advice, this looks very likely to be the case throughout the next half term. We are continuously monitoring the situation, taking advice from the Government, DFE and HMC, as well as communicating with other schools across the North East and North West. In the unlikely event that things improve in the short term, we will be prepared to move forward with competitive fixtures, and I will update parents and children immediately. Parents should feel assured that inter-school fixtures will be offered in the Spring term as soon as we feel that it is safe to do so.

(Mr D King, Director of Sport)

Harvest

The children have already enjoyed a virtual Harvest assembly this week, delivered by Reverend Atkins, from the Chapel. Next week, we will be collecting food donations, as we do every year; our chosen charity is Bradford Central Foodbank. This organisation helps families in crisis across the city by providing urgently needed food parcels. Donations of all tinned and long-life foods would be appreciated and, in particular: soup, tinned meals, including vegetarian options, and biscuits. Donations of toiletries would also be helpful. Items requested are: shower gel, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and toilet rolls.

Please send any donations into school next week and we will then deliver all items to the food bank during half term. Many thanks for your support in this.

Use of Face Coverings

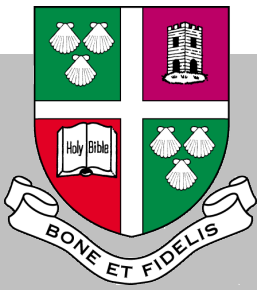
As the local Covid infection rates continue to rise, we have responded in school by making face masks mandatory for all staff in shared spaces and in all parent-facing roles. We would like to request that parents also wear a face covering at all times whilst on the school site, regardless of drop off and collection times. We are taking these additional precautions in the hope that we can assist the School in continuing to remain Covid-free at this time.

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Please do look out for the Brontë Bulletin on Friday for details of next week's House Cross Country and other information regarding events next half term.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if we can be of any assistance.

With very best wishes,

S. Chatterton

Sarah Chatterton

Head, Brontë House

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