

CALSHOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mr M. Wingrove
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March 16th

NEWSLETTER

www.calshot.bham.sch.uk

At Calshot Primary School we are always AIMING HIGH!

Chair of Governors Message

Dear Parents

In March last year I wrote to you to let you know that we had asked Mr Wingrove to be Acting Head for the summer term and until the end of the 2019/20 academic year due to the departure of Mr Simner, who left to pursue a new role at the end of the spring term 2019.

Mr Wingrove has ensured stability at Calshot for the benefit of all children, staff and parents and provided a smooth transition and continuity during this time.

I am extremely pleased to be writing to you again to inform you that following a recruitment process, Mr Wingrove is now the permanent Head Teacher at Calshot Primary School.

Please join the Governing Body in congratulating Mr Wingrove and we hope that you will continue to offer him the same support as you have always done.

Dharmesh Rajput
(Chair of Governors)

Coronavirus

I want to update you on the latest advice we have been given around Coronavirus and the response we are making as a school. The government has now moved to phase 2 (Delay) of their response and continue to update us on what we are expected to do.

We have to remain vigilant and we have told staff and children that they must frequently wash hands especially before lunchtime, if they cough or sneeze then they should use a tissue and then wash their hands. We have made sure there is plenty of soap and tissues available across school. I am aware that some children are bringing in hand sanitiser and that is okay as long as it is not shared with other pupils. I have met with our cleaning contractors to ensure the latest up to date information with regards to cleaning routines are maintained across school. Any visitors that come to school have to sanitise their hands before they enter the premises.

If anyone becomes ill and presents with a new continuous cough or temperature (above 37.8) they should be isolated at home for 7 days. If after 7 days a child feels better and no longer has a high temperature they can return. If there are no signs of an improvement after 7 days you should contact NHS111 online. It is important that when you contact the school to report an absence that you do so by 9.15am. You will be asked if your child has a cough or temperature. If this is the case we can now register this as a potential case of Coronavirus. Your child should not return to school for seven days from the start of the illness. If the child has siblings that also attend school then they too will need to remain at home as Coronavirus can be present without any symptoms for a number of days. For other illnesses where there are no symptoms of a cough or temperature such as sickness bugs, HSE guidance is that the child can return to school after 48 hours from the last time they were ill.

The same approach applies to staff, so we potentially may have fewer staff available on a daily basis. We will continue to remain open until a situation may become untenable and we cannot fulfil our duty safely.

I see a lot of speculation in the media whether schools should remain open, if they should close and if so how long for. We follow Birmingham City Council and Department for Education guidance states that at present schools **do not need to close**. This however may change, you may not have a lot of warning to prepare for this. If we are forced to close we will send home pupil packs with the children and provide online access to resources to help support our pupils. We will inform parents as quickly as possible via text messages and a newsletter, please make sure contact details are up to date with the main office. I may not know how long a forced closure is to be in place for but I will send any information I can as and when we are advised.

I have taken the decision that next week's **Parents Evening is to be postponed** until after Easter, if we are still open I want to limit the opportunity for pupils and staff to come into contact with the virus as much as possible. I have also cancelled the EY/KS1 Easter Bonnet parade for the same reason, I am very sorry as I know how much the children enjoy it but under the current circumstances it seems unwise for it to continue.

I also want to mention how grateful we are for the NHS and all that they do for us. I know some parents work in hospitals and the community, our thoughts are with you and the wonderful work that you do.

I have included the most up to date advice given to us from Public Health England:

Department for Education Coronavirus

Today we have launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687 Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

- No school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England.

Where to find the latest information

Updates on COVID-19: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Mr. M. Wingrove

(Head Teacher)

