



Kindness, Thankfulness, Perseverance

We are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday. In amongst our relief and happiness that things are starting to move in a positive direction, we do understand that this remains a difficult time for people, and brings much anxiety and mixed emotions along with it. It has been really helpful for the staff to chat with parents this week during the parent meetings, we hope you found it useful too. If you have any worries about your child specifically or the systems in school more generally, please do get in touch with us.

This has and continues to be such a difficult time for everyone, all of us in school are committed to trying to make this next transition as smooth as possible for all our children. The staff are very aware of the huge toll that the outcomes of the pandemic have placed on children. Children have suffered not only from nearly a year of lost learning but also from loss, be it the tragic loss of someone close to them, or the loss of routine, friendship, structure, opportunity and freedom. For many of our children we have seen some of the impact of this loss in increased anxiety and decreased appetite for learning.

We have spent a lot of time discussing the best way that we can approach the return to school. Whilst it is obvious that ultimately we need to tackle the loss of learning, we cannot underestimate the impact on the mental well-being of our children. Therefore, the first thing we will be prioritising will be making sure that all children feel happy and safe back in the environment and routine of school. Through this we will be re-establishing working patterns and expectations, ensuring that children are feeling confident and are able to be independent. We will use our three core values of kindness, thankfulness and perseverance to guide us on our journey of getting everyone back on track as "lifelong learners" to showing how they shine!

Before Easter the teachers will also assess how children's learning has progressed over the past two months, enabling us to plan our curriculum carefully for the rest of the school year, so that we can ensure that children have the core knowledge, understanding and skills they need for a successful progression onto their next school year in September.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and see you on Monday!

Drop off and Pick up times: from Monday:

- **Squirrels and Badgers: 8.40am start and 3.05pm finish.** Squirrels to enter through the wooden main gate and Badgers through the Blue gate.
- **Hedgehogs and Foxes: 8:50am start and 3:15pm finish.** Hedgehogs to enter through the wooden main gate and Foxes through the Blue gate.

PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE TO FOXES AND BADGERS.

Don't forget to bring to school:

Waterproof coat in case it rains
Welly boots for the field
Water bottle (named)
Warm Clothing, lots of layers are best

Reminder: The Car Park is for Staff Use only

Please do not attempt to drive into the car park as this is where our younger children will be standing waiting for school to open.

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE STAY AT HOME, STAY SAFE AND HELP THE NHS

It is important to point out that even though schools are reopening to ALL children from Monday we are still in a National lockdown with current restrictions in place. Children should not be going on play dates after school or sleepovers at friends during the weekend. It is important that we all stick to the government guidelines so that the planned roadmap to get us back to normality goes ahead. It has been a tough time for us all and we are all really looking forward to the restrictions being lifted however, we all have our part to play in sticking to the rules.

This means you should **NOT GO OUT AT ALL** except for essential reasons which are below.

If you do go out, always stay at least 2 metres away from others.

The **ONLY** reason you should go out is for one of the following reasons:

1. Shopping for basic necessities, for example food and medicine, which must be as infrequent as possible.
2. One form of exercise a day, for example a run, walk, or cycle – alone, with members of your household or one other person.
3. Any medical need, or to provide care or to help a vulnerable person.
4. Travelling to and from work, but only where this absolutely necessary and cannot be done from home.

Before Your Child Leaves Home in The Morning

Please check for any of the following symptoms

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to the sense of smell or taste

If any of these symptoms are evident **do not send them to school**, call school on 01747 840409 and leave a message or email office@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

Government advice must be followed, it can be [found here](#). We will also ask any siblings to stay home and isolate for 10 days or until the results of a PCR COVID test.

If your child has been sick and suffered diarrhoea they need to be 48 hours clear before returning to school. Please let the school office know about any sickness absence, isolation within households or suspected cases. Schools are an important part of the track and trace system and we do need to know, so we can act quickly.



Friday VIP Speaker

We are keen to start up a new initiative on a Friday for the children.

Do you do an interesting job? Or have an unusual hobby? If you are able to spare 10 minutes on a Friday afternoon to talk to the children about either, please do get in touch and we will add you to the timetable.

We are hoping to be able to inspire our children to think about their future careers and hobbies.

Happy Birthday



Emilia (5)

Edith (7)

Laila (9)

Elsie-Brooke (7)

Many Happy Returns

Just a couple of reminders:

- children should not be given chocolate or fizzy drinks in their lunch boxes
- children should not be wearing jewellery (small stud earrings are allowed), nail polish or dye in their hair.

School Twitter Page:

@StBourton

We are going to be celebrating **Red Nose day for Comic Relief** in school on Friday 19th March. Children can come into school dressed as a superhero or wearing red clothes if they would prefer to. If you can, it would be great if you could give a £1 (or whatever you can afford!) donation to Comic Relief. There will be collection pots on the gate.

We are pleased to announce that our Breakfast Club will be up and running from Monday 8th March.

PH Sports deliver a fun and engaging Breakfast club at St George's for children of all ages.



Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is available daily from 7:45am. Children will be welcomed and offered a healthy breakfast to kick start the day, followed by the option to take part in a variety of sports and arts and crafts activities.

Activities

At PH Sports Breakfast club children are provided with the opportunity of choice and the ability to access a variety of activities. Every activity is aimed to be accessible to children of all ages and abilities. Each session will run in a similar format where children will have the choice of 3 activities; craft, sports/games activity or choosing activities (Lego, homework, books, board games etc.). There is also the option for some quiet time in the 'chill-out zone' which allows children who want a bit of quiet time to relax in an area where they can be comfortable.

Examples of sports activities include (not limited to): dodgeball, basketball, parachute games, tag games, alternative sports etc.

Costs:

Breakfast Club: 7:45am– 8:45am: £4.25

To book follow this link - <http://phsports.co.uk/online-bookings/>

Term Dates for the Diary:

SCHOOL REOPENING
TO ALL: 8th March

Spring Term: Tuesday
23rd February –
Thursday 1st April
(School finishes at
13:15pm on Thursday
1st April)

Summer Term:
Monday 19th April –
Thursday 27th May

INSET Day Friday 28th
May

May Half Term:
Monday 31st May -
Friday 4th June



A helpline is available for families worried about how their child is coping with the coronavirus crisis and lockdown.

Dorset Council Educational Psychology Service has set-up a helpline to support those who are worried about their child or teenager during the lockdown.

The helpline number is: **01258 474036**. It is open from Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.45pm. Callers need to ring and make an appointment for a 30 minute phone consultation.

Rapid Lateral Flow Tests for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff. About 1 in 3 people with coronavirus do not have symptoms but can still pass it on to others. Regular testing of people without symptoms is important to help stop the virus spreading and protect your loved ones. From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

We will send out more information to parents next week.

Important Dates

- ◆ Pupils return to school – Monday 8th March
- ◆ Red Nose Day, superhero mufti day - Friday 19th March

Parent Governor

We will soon be sending out notification of a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join our Board of Governors. Please look out for paperwork regarding self-nomination that will be sent out after the children return to school.

If we have loaned you a school laptop these will now need to be returned to school on Monday 8th March

We would like to thank you all for your support with remote learning during this lockdown. We know that this has been hard but we appreciate your support and are proud of the learning that we have provided for your children. Please see below for results of our Parents' Survey.

Remote Learning—Parents' Survey Results

Thank you if you took part. Please see responses to our survey questions below:

100% think that the work being set has been of a high standard

90% think that their child was receiving on the whole the right amount of work

10% think that their child received too much work

76% of parents are confident in supporting all their child's remote learning

100% know where to get support and advice with remote learning

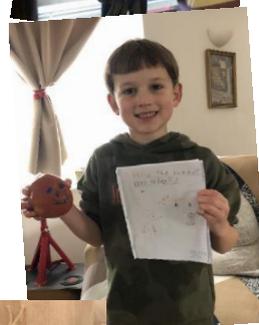
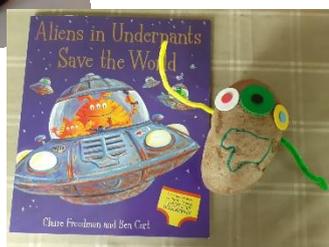
90% of our children have an area where they can concentrate at home

69% of children enjoyed all their live lessons with 31% enjoying them sometimes. 0 children commented they didn't enjoy their live lesson

What are we doing well? (tick all that apply) 100% - live sessions, 95% - quality of work, 95% - the flexibility to complete work when it suited each family, 80% - good range of tasks, 90% - advice and support from staff, 90% - the variety of activities set

Dress Up a Potato for Book Week House Challenge

In the past we have dressed up for the day, but this year, we asked the children to dress up/paint a potato as a favourite book character. The entries were amazing. Everyone who entered earned 10 house points.



Unmasking the Masked Reader:

How difficult was our masked reader challenge? I found some of the readers hard to work out! A big thank you to the staff that took part – we have some fabulous actors and actresses especially when it comes to accents! Here we unmask the readers:



	<p>Tiddler is...</p> <p>Ms Rankin</p>		<p>Smelly Louie is...</p> <p>Mrs Martin</p>
	<p>The Runaway pea is...</p> <p>Mrs Shears</p>		<p>Walking Through the Jungle is...</p> <p>Mrs Cuff</p>
	<p>Peace At Last! Is...</p> <p>Mrs McGinty</p>		<p>Oh no George! is...</p> <p>Mrs Hudson</p>
	<p>Caterwaul Caper is...</p> <p>Miss Frewer</p>		<p>Dear Zoo is...</p> <p>Mr Abbott</p>
	<p>The Tiger Who Came To Tea is...</p> <p>Mrs Nicholls</p>		<p>Aliens Love Underpants is...</p> <p>Mrs Welshman</p>
	<p>Winnie The Witch is...</p> <p>Mrs Moores</p>		<p>Little Rabbit Foo Foo is..</p> <p>Mrs Toy</p>
	<p>Norman, The Slug With The Silly Shell is...</p> <p>Mrs Farndale</p>	<p>We hope you had lots of fun trying to guess who each reader was!</p>	