

UPDATED GUIDANCE ON CORONAVIRUS

The government has updated its guidance which is available to everyone. The key messages are as follows:

- **New rules for close contacts** - Anyone aged 5 years and over, who has been identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 and who is not legally required to self-isolate, is now strongly advised to take a rapid lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days or until 10 days since their last contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19 if this is earlier. If any of these LFD tests are positive they should self-isolate in order to protect other people.
- This is a big change for primary school children. Children under 5 are exempt from daily testing. Children under 18 do not need to isolate if they are a contact.
- Whilst daily LFD testing for close contacts is new, routine testing for staff in all settings and secondary school pupils will continue.

Link to the full guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

With very strong support of the parents the key aspects of the guidance are already in place at Bigland Green to protect children's well-being and the health of those around them. All parents are requested to follow this guidance and inform the school accordingly. The school is strongly advising all families to have LFD (lateral flow devices) at home on a regular basis. The LFD testing is designed to identify carriers of the Covid virus who do not display any symptoms. The school will continue to work in strong partnership and do its best to protect and keep everyone safe in these difficult times. Thank you for your continued support.

**COVID-19
UPDATE**

THANK YOU & BEST WISHES

A big 'Thank You' to everyone for your kind support and cooperation throughout the term. The school very much appreciates your support, particularly in these difficult times.

We very much hope that you and your family have peace and hope, and a new year filled with prosperity and happiness.



FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM

Tuesday 4 January is a Training Day for staff members. Pupils return to school on Wednesday 5 January. Bright Minds and Life Skills children will be from 8:00 AM and others from 9:00 AM as usual.

LIT SESSIONS FOR JANUARY

'Let's Inspire Together' are workshops where the classes will focus on a key aspect of learning for the term. The school encourages both parents to attend the sessions that are usually 45 - 60 minutes. The school is aiming to hold the sessions in person. Parents must have a face covering and following the school's policy on social distancing. Further information will be on Parent Hub nearer to the date.

Spring term - January 2022	
Date	Year group/Class
Thursday 6 January	Y5, Hyacinth/Violets
Friday 7 January	Y4, Crocus/ Hydrangea
Tuesday 11 January	Y3, Ivy/Tulip
Wednesday 12 January	Y2, Geranium/Rose
Thursday 13 January	Y1, Camellia/Honeysuckle
Friday 14 January	N, Sunflower/Lavender
Tuesday 18 January	R Bluebell/Daffodil
Wednesday 19 January	Year 6, Orchid & Poppy
Tuesday 15 March	Y6 LIT for KS2 SATs

LAST DAY OF TERM

Pupils finish school on Tuesday 21 December at 2 PM. Kindly make the necessary arrangements so that your child is picked up on time. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

FULL-TIME NURSERY PLACES

The government only provides full-time nursery places to parents who qualify for 30 hours funding. Bigland Green, as in previous years, was able to offer some full-time places that are funded by the school budget.

We are very pleased that all the parents who applied within the deadline have all been offered a full-time Nursery place from January for their child. Unfortunately, the school will not be able to accommodate any late application and requests submitted after the deadline will not be considered.



INFORMATION ABOUT AND ENROLMENT FOR CLUBS NEXT TERM

Information about next term's clubs and enrolment will be sent via the Parent Hub. Kindly ensure that you have access to the Hub so that you are able to enrol your child for clubs should you wish to do so. If you need assistance with anything then kindly contact the school office before the end of term.

FAREWELL TO TULONA

Tulona started working at Bigland Green first in November 2010. She has supported children as a Lunch Assistant as well as a Learning Support Assistant over the years. She will be leaving at the end of this term. We would like to thank her for all her contributions to the school and wish her the best with the future.



RURAL STUDY AT GORSEFIELD

Poppy and Orchid classes have had a thrilling and delightful time at Gorsefield. Both classes had the pleasure of taking part in mountain bike riding, archery, camp crafts, night walks, campfires, a countryside nature walk by the nature reserves and orienteering.

The children's perseverance during activities was very impressive, as well as the teamwork they had displayed throughout the visit. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Gorsefield team and Bigland Green staff for all the hard work they have put into organising this trip.

Well done Poppy and Orchid!

Here are quotes from some of the children:

"The best visit ever! Can we go back again?"

"I've made new friends and learnt new skills."

"Even though I've missed my family, I still enjoyed all the activities."



Quote of the Week

'Break the ice'

To make someone feel more comfortable

HOUSE TEAM TREAT

We are postponing the Big House Team Treat until the spring term in line with the school's current risk assessment. Children will still celebrate with a smaller treat on Tuesday 21 December in their Year groups.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

We are pleased to announce an exciting club programme for the spring term. The timetable and information are all sent via Parent Hub. Kindly fill out the google form (link below) to express your interest. Please note club places are given on a first come first serve basis when payment is made. Please complete the form once, even if you are choosing multiple clubs for each child. You will be able to access the link from 17 December - 4 January 2022.

<https://forms.gle/xPGzRxx5Y5zvpvqG7>

The school office will be open for payment (by card only) at the following times only:

Thursday 6 & Friday 7 January 2022

7:15AM - 8:00AM, 9:30AM-3:00PM, 4:00-4:30PM

IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS & TRANSFERS

This is to remind parents that school admissions are decided centrally by the Local Authority. Parents who want to change school (move a child from Bigland Green to another school or move to Bigland Green from another school) must apply to Tower Hamlets Pupils Services by completing a common application form:

<https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Education-and-skills/Admissions-and-exclusions/CAFIInYearPrimary2020-21.pdf>

The next deadline is 11 February. More information can be found on the form itself or by calling Pupil Services on 020 7364 5000.

BRIGHT MINDS

Bright Minds for Year 4, 5 and 6 (and Life Skills session) will resume from Wednesday 5 January. Parents are reminded that the sessions start at 8:00 AM and run from Tuesday to Friday (no sessions on Monday). Please ensure that your child attends regularly and on time. Pupils who arrive late will not be able to join the session as it causes disruption to others.

Learning Minds (after school sessions for targeted pupils in Year 1, 2 and 3) will also resume from 5 January. Kindly confirm with your child's classteacher in the morning on 5 January if you are not sure.

CORONAVIRUS IN THE FAMILY?

If there is a positive case of coronavirus in your household or family, then kindly inform the school office immediately. Children who are not positive can still attend school but are strongly advised to take an LFD (lateral flow device). Please do an LFD test in the morning before school and submit the data to the NHS following the NHS guidelines.

Kindly take your child to PAL Space in the morning. If you were not able to do an LFD in the morning, then the school can organise this to protect everyone. More information will be given to parents depending on their individual situations. However, the school strongly advises parents to check and follow the government and NHS guidelines if in doubt.

Staff members who have a positive case in their household must follow the NHS guidelines. Most staff will be able to come to work as normal but the school strongly advise all staff members to take an LFD test in this situation before coming to school. Please see the school office if you need any clarifications.

Main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- ❖ a high temperature (38°C or above)
- ❖ a new continuous cough
- ❖ a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child has any of the above symptoms, then please go for a PCR test at the Watney Market test centre. You will normally have the results within 24 hours and a peace of mind. The test centre at Watney Market is open from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

**If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or
feeling unwell
But they don't have:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in,
sense of smell or taste**

**These are
not normally symptoms of
coronavirus**

**Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial
111 or see your GP**

Idiom of
the Week

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