

9th October 2020

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s)

It has been another busy fortnight at Bayside with a huge amount of learning completed. I've been especially pleased to see our push on reading at school in action: thank you for your support in reading with your children as this is essential for them to develop their reading fluency.

The children have continued to enjoy their new maths scheme and great pride is evident in the learning completed in our new exercise books. I've personally really enjoyed witnessing the wide breadth of learning across the school, from feeding insects to a venus fly trap, to learning about some impressive towers, to light investigations and plenty of computing.

We are now more than used to the additional measures that we have had to take in order to safeguard our children and staff from Covid-19. One alteration made at school is to keep windows and doors open to aid ventilation. As the days begin to get colder, please note that we will need to maintain this ventilation. As a result, the temperatures of the rooms will drop from normal levels and children should wear an additional layer, such as a vest, in order to keep warm. This will be continuously monitored by school staff in order to provide an environment in which everyone can learn successfully.

Please find below some further information about our school. As always, do get in touch with us if you have any questions.

With best wishes as always,



Mr Vernon
Principal



Families Evening

We will be holding Families Evening on November 10th. Due to current restrictions, this will be held remotely via a telephone call. A booking system will be available to set up an appointment with your child's class teacher on Monday 2nd November, via ParentMail.

Magic Breakfast

We have been unable to provide children with breakfast bagels this term but are hoping to provide all families with breakfast boxes in the coming weeks. The plan is to distribute these boxes from school during drop off / pick up to families and we will provide further information in due course.



Trips

In line with our risk assessment, we are currently unable to take the children on trips that are not within walking distance of the school. Residential trips are also on hold. We will let you know when this situation changes and in the meantime will not be requesting any money for trips.

Free School Meals

If you consider that you are eligible for Free School Meals due to receiving financial support and are not currently registered, please contact the office. There is a short form to complete and the school will process the application for you. This not only provides your child with a daily free meal, but also supports the school through increased funding grants. Please note that all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 access a free school meal, but this does not necessarily mean that an application has been made to the borough that would grant additional funding.

Staff Training

Please be aware that Monday 2nd November is an INSET day and the school will not be open for pupils.

Attendance

95- 100% attendance	Best chance of success	Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
90- 95% attendance	At least 2 weeks of learning missed	Satisfactory. Your child may have to spend time catching up with work.
85- 90% attendance	At least 4 weeks of learning missed	Your child may be at risk of underachieving and may need extra support from you to catch up with work.
80- 85% attendance	At least 5 ½ weeks of learning missed	Your child's poor attendance has a significant impact on learning.
Below 80% attendance	At least 7½ weeks of learning missed	Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education. You are at risk of prosecution.

Whilst our school attendance is currently in line with national attendance during this challenging period, maintaining high levels of attendance is essential for children to succeed at school.

It is also incredibly important that children come to school on time. Missing out of 5 minutes a day of school adds up to 3.4 days over the year. Being 20 minutes late equates to nearly two full weeks out of education.

Poor punctuality can lead to your child...

- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons
- Missing important instructions for the day
- Learning bad habits which could affect their future

If your child arrives at school after **9.15 am**, your child will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. All absences are recorded with any relevant actions being taken, including working with attendance officers to issue legal proceedings.

During the week commencing the 28th September, the class with the best attendance was 6RM. During the week commencing the 5th October, the class with the best attendance was 2LW.

Weekly Class Attendance	28 th September	5 th October
RAD	89.38%	84.72%
RRL	96.92%	96.58%
1SW	94.19%	95.31%
2LW	88.89%	98.69%
2MA	98.75%	95.17%
3HC	95.36%	95.60%
3NT	92.76%	90.80%
4KH	94.63%	97.40%
5JW	95.52%	95.90%
5TE	94.92%	96.83%
6BC	91.60%	95.30%
6RM	99.26%	97.84%

High Expectations lead to High Achievers

Bayside Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Alexandra Prout, BA (Hons), Director of Primary Education

Matthew Vernon, BA (Hons) PGCE, Principal

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