



Barn Croft Primary School  
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Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

As you all know by now all schools including Barn Croft will be closing to the majority of our children from tomorrow at the end of the day. I have not written to you before now because I wanted to have as much information as possible to pass onto you – information from the Government is coming down to the local authority and then onto us rapidly now throughout the day.

We do not know how long we will be closed but it is likely to be for more than just a couple of weeks. Therefore it is really important that you know that we are going to still be here from Monday even though the majority of children will not be. We want to support you as you have supported us over the past few years.

The Government has asked schools to remain open for children of key workers in order to support them in being able to continue going to work and also for other specific children who fall into groups for whom we have a statutory and legal duty to care for.

The list of key workers is:

National Health Service, including doctors, nurses, midwives and paramedics

Armed forces

Teachers and childcare staff

Care home workers

Social workers

Police officers, community support, civilian staff

Prison officer or other probation staff

Social workers

Police officers, community support, civilian staff

Prison officer or other probation staff

Delivery drivers

Infrastructure workers, such as gas and electricity

However, if you are unable to secure childcare through family or other means and you are still able to go to work but your job is not on this list please do give us a call and we will try our best to support you. In the same way, if you work from home now as part of a key role (for example social workers, speech & language therapists, educational psychologists) and would need time alone at home to carry out your role and so need your children to come to school again please do give us a call. We are hoping to be able to continue this school offer throughout the Easter holidays as well because we know that your jobs won't stop just because there is a holiday.

Obviously it is early days and things will be changing rapidly, but as long as we are able to be here and able to keep the school open you can call us at anytime if you have a question or a problem. If you are struggling in any way – financially, emotionally or with your children's work pack – let us know so we can help. Sometimes a good chat on the phone does wonders! We do not want anyone feeling isolated and alone. I will continue to post on Barn Croft's Facebook page and keep you up to date via the website and ParentMail.

The work we have sent home should last for the next couple of weeks and then we will start giving you more work to do with your children after the Easter holidays. Teachers will use Class Dojo & Tapestry to let you know about this.

We do have a few members of staff who have been self-isolating this week but they will return after 14 days. Currently we have enough staff to keep going for as long as we are needed. I must say that every member of the team is absolutely committed to making this work for our community. Over the coming days we will put together a plan for how people in the community can help us to help others.

Today and tomorrow we will be trying to keep the children calm in order to not raise their anxiety levels – today we did a lot of yoga with Y2, Y1, Reception and Nursery which was lovely! We are not saying goodbye to the children because teachers will still be in touch either via Class Dojo, Tapestry or phone. The Office Staff, Mrs Moses, Miss Kelly and myself will be making sure that we give you a call at least once a week. Please take these calls as an opportunity to let us know how you are doing.

Please do not forget to come in and collect your work pack from the front office before the end of Friday or tell us who to send it home with.

Finally, I would like to wish you all well. Follow the guidance on how best to protect yourself and your loved ones. And please stay in touch.

Take care & best wishes

Tracey Griffiths  
Headteacher