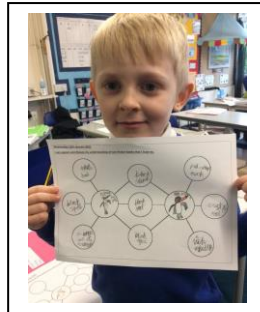




Billingshurst Primary School
Headteacher : Helen Williamson BSc (Hons) MA
Station Road, Billingshurst, West Sussex RH14 9RE
Tel: 01403 782789 Fax: 01403 783124
e-mail: office@billingshurstprimary.org.uk
website: www.billingshurstprimary.org.uk

Newsletter No.16
Friday 15th January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers



Firstly the most enormous thank you to all of you who have sent in so many lovely emails with children's work and the very positive comments about the online learning. It takes a huge amount of work and it is really lovely to hear how it is helping. Please do send in children's work in whatever form – you can just take a picture on your phone and send it in – we would love to see more work from the children.

Some parents are reporting that they are finding it more difficult to get children to do the writing activities. Writing is really important so it may help to let your child know that this request is from the teacher and that you will send in what they do. Some children are more reluctant to write and can come up with a range of reasons why they cannot do it – but we know they can! We are trying to make the activities interesting and imaginative so a little persuasion and 'requests' from their teacher may help. Send in what they write, we will feedback - they will succeed and feel better about writing!

Donations of IT equipment

We have been very touched by the donations of IT equipment given to the school in the last week. We are just getting them all cleaned and set up, ready to go out to families. If you really are struggling, especially if you only have one phone to manage home learning on, please let me know and we can get something out on loan to you as soon as possible. Please email headpa@billingshurstprimary.org.uk If you have equipment you no longer need and would like to donate, please let us know and drop it off at the school office – with a big thank you from us!

Food parcels/vouchers

The voucher scheme is returning next week for families in receipt of Free School Meals benefit. There will be one more food parcel early next week which is technically food for this week. There were reports that schools had been able to choose between vouchers and food hampers – this is not true and we had no choice but accept the Chartwell's hampers. The system for ordering vouchers will take a bit of time to actually get up and running but we will get these to you as soon as possible. If you think that you may be entitled to Free School Meals benefits, please email the school office asking for someone to get back to you and they will make contact with you in confidence.



Phone calls home

Teachers are phoning families over the next couple of weeks – some of you will have had a call. Please, when the teacher is talking to your child, where possible please put the call on speakerphone so that it can be shared. This is good safeguarding practice and ensures everyone is included in the conversation. Thank you.

Keyworker Children – Free Hot Lunch

All children in school are entitled to a free hot lunch. Please see the attached menu and next week is week 1 (Sausages on Thursday)

Library Books

Please do ask for library books by emailing me at the office and we will get them ready for you to collect. Please return any library books to the box in the entrance. Please also see the attached flyer about WS Libraries and what they can offer you during the pandemic.

Blue Peter on You Tube

The BBC would like to inform you that they have launched [Blue Peter on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter) at CBBC for entertainment outside of home-schooling hours now we're in lockdown. Blue Peter is the longest running kids TV show in the world and they are uploading videos to it that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. They have world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how tos, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. We also feature ways of getting a Blue Peter badge, behind the scenes footage and extra content about our incredible presenters Adam, Lindsey, Mwaksy, Richie and Henry the Blue Peter dog. subscribe to <https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter> - (it's obviously completely free to subscribe!) and don't forget to watch the live programme on CBBC at 5.00pm every Thursday, or on BBC iPlayer.

Take care and keep safe.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Williamson
Headteacher

Letters Home This Week

All – Chartwells Menu
All – Library Information
All – Wellbeing Information

Dates for Diary

Spring Term -	Monday 4 th January 2021 – Thursday 1 st April 2021
Half Term -	Monday 15 th February 2021 – Friday 19 th February 2021
INSET Day -	Monday 4 th January 2021 and Friday 12 th February 2021
Summer Term -	Monday 19 th April 2021 – Friday 23 rd July 2021
Half Term -	Monday 31 st May 2021 – Friday 4 th June 2021
INSET Day -	Monday 19 th April 2021