

Bowes Provision

This week we returned to Bowes to run our provision for key worker families. Thank you to the children and parents for adapting quickly to this change. We hope the return to Bowes will make it easier for families to access this provision. As always, thank you to the Bowes staff who are in school supporting families and also out there delivering much needed resources.

Google Classroom

Last week we went live with our Google Classrooms for Year 6 and this week we went live with Years 1 – 5. Thank you to everybody who has logged in and started completing their tasks. We hope the children have found this new way of working enjoyable and like reading the comments the teachers add to the daily class stream. Thank you for bearing with us as we work through some of the issues that have arisen. We are trying to resolve these as quickly as possible. We would advise you to use the 'Google Chrome' browser as this appears to present less issues. The Google Classroom page on the Bowes website also has some useful guides and videos to support, so please take a look. Please remember to complete what you can, when you can. If you are having trouble using any of the documents to record work electronically, it is absolutely fine to complete the tasks on paper. Photos of the work can be uploaded to the classroom if you wish. We would also like to say a huge thank you to the staff who have worked tirelessly to get their online classrooms setup and for planning a range of tasks over the week. We look forward to exploring all that Google Classroom offers over the coming weeks.



Nursery & Reception

Home Learning Packs for Nursery and Reception will continue to be posted on the Bowes website, so please keep a look out for these every Monday. Thank you to everybody who has been posting photos and comments on Look@Me. The EYFS team have loved looking at all of the things the children have been busy doing at home. Please keep these coming!

If you are having any problems logging into or uploading observations to Look@Me, please contact us at homelearning@bowesprimaryelt.org.



Communication

Last week, our class teachers contacted parents for a quick check-in and to speak to the children. Thank you for all the lovely comments. We know that our teachers and families greatly appreciated and benefitted from these calls.

During this isolated time, we hope that many of our families are supporting communication for their children and their friends through phone calls, letters, notes, messages, video calls, etc.

As a school, we continue to look into ways to facilitate this contact between the children and with their teachers, however we need to ensure that this is manageable, safe and secure.

At the moment, we hope that Google Classroom will support some of this and we are actively investigating other forms of social media to keep the school community connected.

Bowes Artwork

Letters to the Children

Every fortnight, alternating with this newsletter to parents, a member of staff will be sending a letter to the children. Last week, Kelly (New Southgate site) and Di (Southgate Green site) started us off and next week will be the turn of Miranda and Joel. We are pretty sure they will both be mentioning singing in there somewhere, so get practising!



Bowes Website

Please keep checking in on the Bowes website as we are regularly adding to it. For ease of access and for everything related to the school closure, we have created three clear links on the front page:

- Bowes News
- Home Learning
- Important Information and Support

Each of the links will take you straight to the relevant sections in our School Closure – Covid-19 portal. Our 'Important Information and Support' page has lots of support material for both adults and children. Please also feel free to contact us at support@bowesprimaryelt.org if you need anything. We continue to add to our 'Useful Websites' and 'Extras' sections in the 'Home Learning' page, so please have a look as there are lots of great resources out there.

Sharing Home Life

We would really like to share some of the 'other' activities the children have been doing at home through the Bowes website and slideshows that we could share in our Google Classrooms. We would welcome any photos of the children being busy at home. This could be cooking, model making, gardening, artwork, puzzles, etc. If you would like to send any photos through and are happy for them to be placed on both the school website and in the Google Classrooms, then please email them to homelearning@bowesprimaryelt.org.



Thank you again for all the lovely artwork that is on display on the railings at Bowes. The Friends of Bowes teams have done a fantastic job leading this project and displaying the work for everyone to see.



We Love The NHS

Sending a heartfelt thank you from the children to the NHS. To show our appreciation for all their hard and sometimes dangerous work, Bowes Primary School will be sending our local hospital our love...literally...in the form of a big, rainbow striped heart. To do this we need your help!

The heart will be made up of photos of all the children sending their special thank you messages to the hospital staff. So very soon we will be asking you to send a photo of your child saying thank you. This could be a photo of them holding up a thank you note, or maybe a photo of a drawing or a model, like Lego bricks spelling out 'Thank you'. It is entirely up to you.

Each class will be assigned a colour of the rainbow, so the only thing we ask, is that the colour you have been assigned is dominant in your photo. It could be the background colour, or the colour of the clothes your child is wearing, or the colour of the Lego bricks...that way, when we put the photos together they will make our lovely rainbow.

Further details will be sent out over the coming week detailing assigned class colours and when and where to email your photos.

