

Mrs L Salter
Head Teacher

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Bower Grove School
Fant Lane
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3rd November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Term 2.

Firstly, I would like to reassure you that the staff who tested positive for Covid over half term are making a good recovery. We work closely with the DfE and Public Health England if positive cases occur in school and parents will be kept informed if any actions are required.

Due to unprecedented staff absence, Covid self-isolation (not cases) and other illness it has been necessary to close two primary classes this week. As the pandemic continues it may be a necessary step to close classes in the future for safety reasons. I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. If your child is unable to attend school, work will be provided.

From Thursday 5th November the country will return to Lockdown but schools will remain open. We are putting in further measures to keep our community safe whilst preserving school life and routines. Non essential visitors to school have been cancelled. All EHCP Annual Review Meetings during Term 2 will take place over the telephone. We will endeavour to ensure that pupil off-site visits continue where providers remain open and the visit is an outdoor activity.

In school pupils may see staff wearing visors during the busier times in corridors and masks will be mandatory for pupils and staff on our own school transport for trips. Pupils are already required to wear masks on Kent County Council Transport to and from school. Please ensure your child can store their mask safely and hygienically in their school bag during the day. Pupils are not required to wear masks within the school environment.

Lunch time will extend across four sittings (currently three) to create additional space in the hall.

During the winter months, classrooms will continue to be ventilated with open windows where appropriate. Please equip your child with a named warm coat and school jumper.

For Term 2, After School, Youth Clubs and Sports Clubs have been cancelled.

If your child needs to isolate during Lockdown, their attendance will not be penalised and work will be provided.

I will send out further information regarding Lockdown and school as guidance becomes available.

Please support your child and our school community by encouraging them to follow the safety rules in school especially using hand sanitiser and social distancing. The safety of staff and pupils is our priority during Covid.

Poppy Appeal – The school will be marking Remembrance Day on Friday 6th November. Items from The British Legion are available for pupils. Please send in a donation before Friday.

Homework Projects – Please send in all half term holiday Homework Projects by Friday 6th November.

May I take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your support and understanding during the difficult term we face together. I am incredibly proud of how well our pupils are managing through Covid.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L. Salter". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mrs L Salter
Headteacher