

19th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the second full week back for all pupils, I am sure you are as proud as I am of how well the children have returned to school. Their resilience is a credit to how well you have supported them and prepared them for returning to school as well as the healthy relationships they have with their class teacher and other staff at BWA.

Before we returned to school, I wrote to you to reassure you we would continue to do all we can to support every child flourish in partnership with you. Last week we taught four 'recovery' sessions, as set out below and adapted to be age appropriate.

Session 1 Feelings and Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are you feeling about returning to school? • What have you been looking forward to doing at school? • Is there anything you have been worried about coming back? • What have been the benefits of being at home during the lockdown? • What do you think you will miss about being at home now you are back at school? • Is there any advice you can give me that would help me be successful in helping you?
Session 2 Hope for the Future	<p>Hopes and Dreams</p> <p>This is the first few weeks of being at school in 2021, so it is like a fresh start.</p> <p>What are your Hopes and Dreams for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the rest of this term • the rest of this school year • Reflect on the Hopes and Dreams you made at the beginning of the school year. Have they changed? Discuss how things can change and priorities change when we go through difficult and happy times.
Session 3 Kindness	<p>Not all superheroes wear capes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a superhero? • Who was your superhero during lockdown and why? • Who helped you when you were away from school and learning at home? • Explain why they are your superhero and think about a random act of kindness you are going to do to show them how much you appreciate what they did to help you.
Session 4 Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is resilience? • Is there anything I (the teacher) do to make your life better? • What can I (the teacher) do to help you learn better?

What is COVID assembly	Pupils also had an assembly focused on what COVID19 is, what the term 'new variants' mean, as well as recognise the amazing people who have created the vaccine and what this means for us all.
'What I wish my teacher knew'	This week we resumed our 'What I wish my teacher knew' sessions.

We are creating a video to share how we will be adapting the curriculum content and addressing gaps we have identified. Parent Teacher meetings have also been scheduled for the week beginning 3rd May. If you have any concerns, no matter how small they are, please don't hesitate to get in contact with us so we can work together in the best interests of your child.



Reading to your child

Sharing a book together is a very special experience. Often parents stop reading to their child when they can read independently. I always encourage parents to continue reading aloud to their children

and there is research showing the positive impact this has. Please do give it a go. Choose a book that your child couldn't read fluently themselves but would enjoy. If you need help choosing a book please do let us know or alternatively you may want to look at the books suggested for older age groups in our PTA Amazon Wish List.

Nursey: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3HJ2KRP5RLZDV?ref=wl_share

Reception: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1A4YQD69XQ49T?ref=wl_share

Year 1: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/RL9YEBFXZYR3?ref=wl_share

Year 2: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3IS60PP9ADQUF?ref=wl_share

Year 3: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1BH0VM9654NYE?ref=wl_share

Year 4: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3CGTP3QQWKG5P?ref=wl_share

Year 5: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2AUTAXXSNCFK4?ref=wl_share

Year 6: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1ANNGW9Y5MRR4?ref=wl_share



PTA

I am sure you will join me in thanking our awesome PTA for organising such a great Family Fun Run after Christmas. Of course it wouldn't have been a success without your fantastic support so thank you for taking part and raising much needed funds for the school so we can continue to enhance the learning opportunities for all our pupils. The money raised will go towards our Outside Space Development.

We are very fortunate to have two very exciting opportunities this term. I hope you enjoy making the most of these and I thank you in advance for your support.

Easter Treats

- An online store for BWA and beyond to order some delicious Easter treats. 20% of the funds will go to the BWA PTA.
- bwapta.bigcartel.com

Easter Treasure Hunt

- A virtual Egg Hunt organised for BWA and the local community to do during the Easter holiday.
- <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bwa-pta-easter-treasure-hunt-tickets-145936346541>



LGB Update

Our Chair of the LGB, Kate Amis, is stepping down at the end of this term. We have been so fortunate to have had such an experienced Chair at BWA. Kate worked tirelessly to improve the provision on offer at BWA over the last few years and has been instrumental in our success. I hope you will join me in thanking Kate for her commitment to our whole school community by ensuring every child had the best provision we could offer, through her challenge and support of staff.

I am delighted to inform you that Shiwen Gao and James Waller have been elected as Co-Chairs of our LGB. I am sure you will join me in thanking them for taking on this key role in our school and for their dedication to our school community.



Bilingual term dates


These dates have been sent out to families in the bilingual stream today. Thank you for your patience and understanding whilst we agreed them.



Nursery Places for Sept 2021

We have a few places for Nursery in September 2021. If you require a place for your child next year and haven't applied, please do get in contact. We would also value you sharing this with friends and family who you know have a child eligible to start Nursery this September.

This week I celebrated St Patrick's Day – it was very low key! So to end this brilliant week at BWA, I would like to send this Irish Blessing to you all. Have a super weekend. Miss Henry



An Irish Blessing

*May love and laughter
light your days
and warm your heart
and home,
may good and faithful
friends be yours
wherever you may roam,
May peace and plenty
bless your world
with joy that long endures,
May all life's
passing seasons
bring the best
to you and yours.*