



Birches First School

Believe, Grow, Succeed



Dear Parents

Following Boris Johnson's announcement on Monday, I am writing to confirm that **all** children will be returning to school Monday 8th March. There will **not** be any staggered returns, all year groups (Nursery - Year 4) will be returning together from Monday 8th March. I will be publishing a 'Parents' Guide' to the website to inform you of the procedures, times etc. so you have time to familiarise yourselves with the school's routines and expectations for this date.

The staff are really looking forward to having all the children returning, we are very excited to have a full school once again! I would like to reassure you that we will continue do everything to ensure that the children's return is as smooth as possible and we will be leading our first week back with a focus on children's well-being and personal, social and emotional development.

Following this week we will begin our 'Recovery Plan' to prioritise identifying gaps and re-establishing good progress. There will be an emphasis particularly on Phonics, Reading, increasing children's vocabulary, Writing and Mathematics.

The communication between teachers and parents during this Lockdown has been very positive, we feel that you have kept us fully informed of your child's welfare and education and I believe this has been reciprocated. If you do have any concerns about your child starting back to school please do contact your class teacher and we will work with you to help and support you as best we can.

I am aware that I wrote previously to parents regarding setting a date for Parent's Evening. We will be hosting a Parent's Evening in the final week of the Spring Term (Via Teams/Telephone Calls). This will enable children and staff to settle back into school over the next three to four weeks allowing a focussed discussion to be held on your child's education.

Finally, I would like to thank you once again for your support during this Lockdown. I know there has been a lot of change regarding our Remote Learning Offer and I fully appreciate that this wouldn't have been as successful without your assistance to help your child/ren. The results from the parents survey are extremely positive and I thank you for taking the time to complete the form. A full analysis will be sent out over the next week.

I hope that you have an enjoyable last week of Home Learning(!) and I very much look forward to seeing you and the children on the gate on Monday 8th March.

Miss Varricchione (Headteacher)