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Head Teacher Mrs J Cook

Burton Joyce Primary School
Padleys Lane
Burton Joyce
Nottingham
NG14 5EB

Tel: 0115 9312373

head@burtonjoyce.notts.sch.uk
office@burtonjoyce.notts.sch.uk

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Dear Children of Burton Joyce Primary School,

Hello everyone! How are you all doing? I hope you had a wonderful half term week and enjoyed the gorgeous sunshine! Wasn't it lovely!

How has everyone been getting on with their learning grids – I know from talking to your teachers and from the emails I've had that lots of you have continued to be very busy and productive. Well done from all of us at school to all of you! You are superstars!

I know things have been very different for everybody over the last ten weeks and we have had to get used to new routines and cope with a new way of life during 'lockdown'. I have been so proud of how you have managed during this time. Change isn't always an easy thing to cope with – even adults can find it tricky, so you should feel very proud of yourselves for dealing so well with everything during this time.

You may already know, if you have listened to the news or been talking to the people who look after you, that things for some of us are going to change again.

I explained to you in my last letter that hopefully some of you would be able to return to school very soon. If you are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 you can come back to school next week. At this time, you will come to school for 2 days each week. Some of you will come on a Monday and Tuesday and some of you will come on a Thursday and Friday. Your grown ups will be able to tell you which days you need to come. If your parents or carers are Key Workers, then obviously you can come every day as before but you will go into the Y3/4 classrooms.

If you are in Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 or Year 5, unfortunately for now you need to carry on with the good work you have been doing and stay at home. Your teachers will keep sending you work and they will be ringing you again over the next couple of weeks. Hopefully you will be able to return too very soon.

Children I know that some of you may be a little nervous or apprehensive about coming back as it must seem like a very long time since you were last here. These feelings are quite normal. You need to remember that I will be here along with your teachers to look after you. We can't wait to see you and hear about all the things you have been doing- we really have missed you so much!

We know that some of you have done lots of school-work at home and some of you may have done just a little. Please don't worry – we understand, and to begin with we shall just enjoy being back together and learning about the new routines and things we must do at school now. This will be new for us all so we shall be in it together! We've got this team!

To help look after you to the absolute best we can, we have had to put some new things in place at school. So, for those of you returning next week, I'm going to explain to you some of things that will be different and look different around school. There are some pictures coming up to show you some of them.

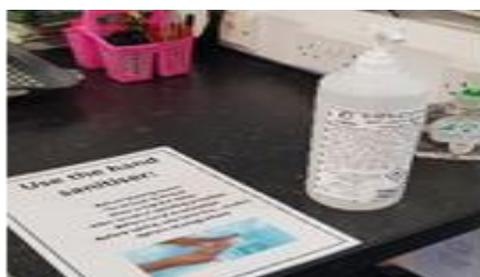


The most important thing we will need to remember is to try and keep 2m metres (a few big steps) apart from one another. Sometimes I know this is going to be tricky or we might forget. Don't worry, we will remind you and support each other with this, no-one will get into trouble for this we will just remind and help you. Lots of the things I'm going to show and explain to you will help us remember us to keep the 2m distance.

You will notice as you arrive at school there are arrows and lines to help direct you safely to your classrooms – please make sure you follow the arrows. There are also some places in school that have arrows showing which side to walk on. You may be asked to wait in a small queue before you can come in, there will be markers on the ground to show you where to wait. Remember there will be lots of teachers and grown ups around to help you so don't worry about this.



When you come into school you will be asked to wash your hands and to put some hand-sanitizer on, again your teachers will show you where it is and help you.



Your classroom will look a little different too, as the desks will be spread out. Your teacher will tell you which is your desk. We can't use the coat hooks at the moment so you will need to put coats or jumpers on your chairs and if you have a lunch-box this can be put under your desk. Children please don't bring any toys, books or crayons from home into school. However, you will of course need a full water bottle, sun hat and sun lotion just like before.



At playtimes your teachers will show you where you can play. I'm really sorry but at the moment you cannot use the outdoor equipment. Again, don't worry your teachers will teach you some great games that you can play instead.

Lunchtimes will be a little different too. If you are having a hot school dinner you will still go in the hall just like before, but you will be told which table to sit at and your dinner will be bought to you.

We have also made a new Code of Conduct that your teachers will go through with you when you come into school. I've attached it to this letter in-case you want to have a look at it before you come back.

Your grown ups have been sent all this information, so don't worry if you forget anything or you aren't quite sure about something, ask them and they will help explain it to you. And remember when you get here I'll be here to see you along with all the teachers and teacher assistants and we will look after you.

Well that was a long letter wasn't it! What a lot to take on board -well done for concentrating to the end!

Don't forget you can email me anytime if you have any worries or questions or you want to show me something you have been doing.

As always, be good for your parents/carers and keep smiling!

Take care everyone,
Mrs. Cook