



Aspire, Believe - Together Achieve

Head teacher:
Miss Sarah Sheppard
Tel: 01454 862233
Email: office@stbarnabasprimaryschool.co.uk

Poplar Close
North Common
Warmley
BRISTOL
BS30 5NW

NATIONAL LOCKDOWN ROUNDUP – 29th JANUARY 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Withdrawal of February 22nd INSET DAY

As a Senior Leadership Team and in conjunction with Governors we have decided to withdraw the 22nd February Inset day. Our rationale for doing so is due to the current, difficult circumstance we find ourselves in. We feel it is important that the school remains open for children on this day. Also, INSET days are an essential part of teacher training and development and the timing of them is important to get the best value. ***The new date will be Wednesday 21st July 2021.*** If parents have any questions or would like to raise any issues or difficulties please email the school office.

15th – 19th February Half-Term

The Department for Education has stated this week that schools will close as normal for February half-term. There will be no expectation for schools to remain open for Key Worker or Vulnerable pupils. Staff will be enjoying a well-earned rest and so should all of the children (and parents!) so there will be no home learning this week. School will re-open on 22nd February, for key worker and vulnerable pupils.

COVID Testing over February Half-Term

Where pupils test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) during the holidays, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, schools are not required to take any action. Staff, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. However, where pupils still attending their school test positive having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, please do so or email Miss Sheppard as the school will be asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

Re-opening of Schools

This week the Prime Minister announced that it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning immediately after the February half-term and instead hopes it will be safe to commence the re-opening of schools and colleges from Monday 8th March. This is in response to the national public health data and pressure on NHS capacity.

Education settings, as well as students, parents and carers will be given at least two weeks notice to prepare for a return to face-to-face education.



Schools and colleges will remain open to vulnerable children and young people and the children of critical workers after February half-term, as they are now. All other pupils will continue to receive high quality remote education at home. This is in line with the wider national lockdown measures to help minimise the spread of the virus and respond quickly to the new variant.

Home Learning Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the survey. We will be analysing the results and comments and will report back to you over the next couple of weeks

Wellbeing, Mental Health and Behaviour

Children's Mental Health Week, 1st to 7th February

An email will be forwarded to you with a wide range of webinars for parents to support their children's mental health.

Miss Sheppard will host some group Zoom calls next weeks for parents who would like to discuss or share some practical ideas to support wellbeing. These will be on **Wednesday 3rd February at 9.30am and Thursday 4th at 1.30pm**. The link will be shared on the whole school dojo the day of the meeting.

Assuring you of our best at all times,

Miss Sheppard and Team St Barnabas

