



# BOROUGH GREEN

## Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

### July 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of Term 6, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your support in what has been a uniquely challenging year once again. However, as we reach the end of term, it is important to reflect on the many positives. We have managed two lockdowns, delivered countless hours of recorded and live teaching; adjusted to a new way of working with separated year groups, meals in classrooms and participated in Zoom assemblies, (never as good as being face to face with the children). The world, our country and our community have been shaken but we have held each other up, supported each other, shared positive messages and given virtual hugs.

I have had the pleasure of handing out a number of awards and certificates of recognition to children who have demonstrated: Generosity, Independence, Belonging and Mastery, the four key elements that underpin our mission statement of 'Learning Together with Kind Hearts and Determined Minds' and two children, Rayyan and Lily made it into the Hall of Fame book.

### Staffing Updates

As mentioned in my last newsletter, Miss Butterfield will be starting her maternity leave at the end of term and Mrs Gordon will be covering Poplar Class and Mrs Jones will be starting her retirement. Also leaving at the end of term is Miss Blundell who is moving to work in a specialist setting. I am sure you will join me in wishing them good luck in their new ventures.

### Governors

This year, we will be saying goodbye to some of our long-standing governors including our Chair of Governors, Jenny Hadfield. Our governors often work behind the scenes but are absolutely vital to the school and its continued success. There is a short message from them at the end of this newsletter but I wanted to say a massive thank you for the time, effort and energy you give to the school as volunteers.

### PTA

There are also changes in our PTA with Michelle Fleming, the Chair, due to step down after our slightly delayed Summer Fair in September. Our PTA are an amazing group and I am pleased to see that we have some new faces joining. Every child in the school has really benefitted from the equipment and resources that the PTA has been able to purchase with funds raised from activities/events that are enjoyed by the whole school community.

### Successes



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For the last six weeks, football players from 47 different schools across Tonbridge and Malling District have been attending trials in the hope of being selected for a place on the District Team, so competition is high. I am thrilled to announce that two of our pupils have been successful and will now represent their district. Lois will be joining the Girls Super League Squad and Luke the Boys Year 5 squad. It is the first time in five years that anyone from Borough Green has managed to get into the district team and so we are very proud of them.

With the removal of Bubbles, it is hoped that many of our clubs can restart next year so please look out for information regarding this.

### School Uniform

The summer holidays is a time when many parents review their children's uniform. With all shops now open, easier access to order online Borough Green uniform and a fantastic 'Nearly New' shop that has opened up on two Saturdays, every child is expected to arrive in the uniform outlined in our prospectus on the website. Below is a reminder of what is expected in September.

<u>Boys – Uniform</u>	<u>Girls – Uniform</u>
Grey trousers/Grey shorts	Grey skirt, pinafore dress or tailored trousers
White shirt/polo shirt	White blouse/polo shirt
Grey socks	White or grey knee socks
School tie (juniors only, optional)	Grey, black or green tights
School bottle green round neck/v-neck sweatshirt	School tie (juniors only, optional)
A suitable waterproof/winter coat	School bottle green round neck/v-neck sweatshirt or sweatshirt fabric cardigan
	A suitable waterproof/winter coat
	In the summer a green checked dress can be worn

Please ensure that your child wears sensible black shoes to school, NOT TRAINERS or BOOTS. They should also be smartly presented at all times with their shirts tucked in.

### P.E.

In Years 3-6, we will continue with children arriving at school in their P.E. kit on P.E. days. Details of the days will be sent out at the beginning of term. Spare uniform should be brought in on these days in case their P.E. kit gets wet.



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### P.E. Kit:

Plimsolls/trainers

House colour tee-shirt

White shorts

Green school jumper and green tracksuit bottoms may be worn for outdoor games in cold weather. Black skins can also be worn but only under their white shorts - not on their own.

### Swimming

Swimming costumes, hats and towels are needed by all pupils for swimming.

Earrings must be removed for swimming lessons, covering is not an option.

Long hair should be tied back at all times whilst children are in school. Earrings must be removed or covered for PE lessons. If you are considering having your child's ears pierced, this should be planned for the beginning of the summer holiday which will allow sufficient healing time so that earrings can be removed by your child for PE lessons.

Please ensure that all items of uniform, PE kit and other personal possessions are clearly marked with your child's name, preferably by sewn-in or ironed-on labels. Please do not allow your child to bring valuables to school, such as expensive watches, jewellery or more than a small amount of money. The school cannot take responsibility if such items are lost or damaged. Mobile phones carried by Yr 5/6 pupils who walk home without a parent or guardian must be checked into the school office throughout the school day.

Please ensure that your child wears sensible black shoes or sandals to school, NOT TRAINERS or BOOTS.

Makeup and nail varnish are not permitted. Excessive hair accessories or extreme hairstyles or colour are also not permitted. Only small stud earrings allowed. Many items are available from the school office. Please use ParentPay to order uniform or download/ request an order form from the school office if you wish to purchase uniform. The Parent and Teachers' Association also runs an excellent second hand uniform shop on site.

We expect our children to demonstrate pride in their appearance and respect for the school uniform.

### Behaviour and Discipline

We expect high standards of behaviour, respect, courtesy and thoughtfulness from everyone on our school site. The children are regularly reminded of our expectations and a Stepped Approach for rewards and sanctions is on display around the school. Our aim is to create a stable, ordered, caring community where children are encouraged to be responsible, self-reliant and sensitive to the needs and feelings of



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others. Our rules are clear children should be – Ready-Respectful-Safe and this vocabulary will be referred to regularly throughout the day.

### COVID

Below is a summary of the latest information from the Department for Education in preparation for the country's move to Step 4.

- We will no longer recommend that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles').
- As well as enabling flexibility in curriculum delivery, this means that assemblies can resume, and you no longer need to make alternative arrangements to avoid mixing at lunch.
- Outbreak management plans cover the possibility that in some local areas it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups.
- Close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.
- From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test.
- Face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas.
- If anyone in school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they must be sent home and follow public health advice.

The removal of 'bubbles' will enable us to remove the staggered drop off and pick up times. Children will be expected to arrive between **8:40 and 8:50**. Children arriving after registration will be marked as late, persistent lateness is disruptive and results in an unsettling arrival for the child and impedes progress as classes start the day with vital Early Work and revision. The school day will **finish at 3:15**.

**These changes will come into place on children's first day of Term 1, Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

### Volunteer Readers

Are you looking for a way to make a significant contribution to the lives of children in the local community?

Becoming a Volunteer Reader is both rewarding and impacting; here are some of the many benefits:

Our pupils love the one-to-one attention of an adult during a 10-minute reading session – you are likely to be on the receiving end of lots of smiles! You will see their progress in fluency, expression and enjoyment over the course of several weeks.

You will develop the skills to support progress and enthusiasm and to ask questions, which help pupils to think about the meaning of texts.

What do you need to do?



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Commit to a regular period of time e.g. 1 hour on a Thursday afternoon. The timing of this is very flexible so let us know what you could commit to. More than 1 hour is excellent! Each child would need 10 - 15 minutes, which would usually include a greeting, talking about what they've read in the last week, some reading aloud and discussion and then you would write a comment in their Reading Record book. Contact the school office on: 01732 883459 or by email [schooloffice@bgpschool.kent.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@bgpschool.kent.sch.uk)

Once again, thank you for all your support this year; for your flexibility when guidelines have changed at the last minute; for doing all that you can to keep our community safe and for taking on the challenge of home-learning. The staff have worked incredibly hard this year despite the challenges and have really appreciated your messages of thanks.

Have a lovely summer.

Kind regards,

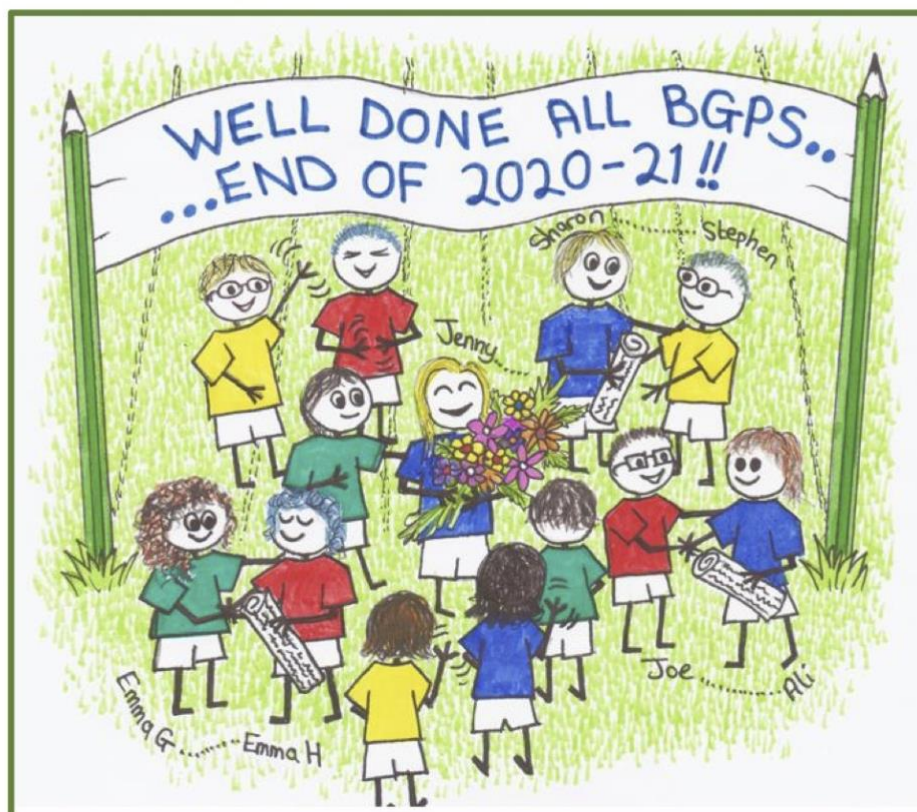
Mrs. K Sandberg  
Headteacher, Borough Green Primary





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## A message from your Governors



Congratulations everybody, we have nearly reached the end of another School year. We are so proud of you all, staff, parents and pupils for how you have tackled this last school year and we hope you have a wonderful and well-deserved summer break.

Goodbye to our amazing Year 6s. Good luck in secondary school from September!

Goodbye also to some of our Governors and thank you for volunteering your time in support of Borough Green Primary School. We are delighted to welcome new Governors to the team and look forward to working with you.

Have a lovely Summer everyone.

