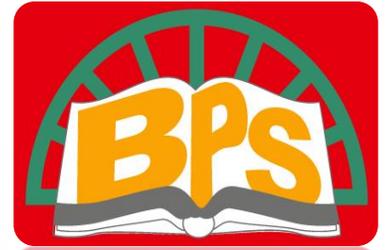


Brinsley Primary and Nursery School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we rapidly approach the last day before our Christmas holiday I have been reflecting on the Autumn term. It is with this in mind that I write to you today.

It has been easy in recent months to let the events of the moment get us down and on many peoples' faces you can see just that - the smiles, the joking and the general happiness that we have always taken for granted are in short supply. Just the other day I was out at lunch time when I stopped some children in Year 1 and asked them what they were playing:

"We're playing 'Corona' Mr Osprey."

"What's that?" I asked, not sure I really wanted to know the answer.

"The person that is in has to chase everyone else and when they tag them they shout 'CORONA', then that person is in and has to chase everyone else..."

Initially I found this a little sad, but afterwards I thought that actually children will find joy and happiness even in the saddest of situations. This is what we, as a school, have sought to do over the last term at BPS. We have tried to not only provide some consistency in learning for the children, but make sure school is a fun place. We have tried to make sure that the limitations we face due to Covid-19 have not completely stopped us from doing certain things. To this end we have still had WOW days, we have still had visitors (albeit sometimes they have been virtual), we have launched a very successful and popular breakfast/after school club, we have even still managed to do our annual Early Years nativity, which has been filmed and privately shared with parents. The last few weeks at school have been spiced with the joys of Christmas as much as we could and I think I can say with some certainty that the children have had a ball! In fact please follow this [link](http://brinsley.notts.sch.uk/brinsley-nativity-2020/) to watch and see some of the fun they have had (alternatively check out our webpage: <http://brinsley.notts.sch.uk/brinsley-nativity-2020/>).

Finally, I would like to thank a few people: Friends of Brinsley, whilst unable to do many of the things they have historically done to support the school, have presented every child in the school with a gift this Christmas; Reverend Stevenson and his parishioners have donated 15 Christmas hampers to support some of our families at Brinsley; I would like to thank the staff at school, who have helped to keep this school not just going along, but thriving in the most difficult of times; Thank all of you and the Brinsley community, who continue to be our strongest advocates; And obviously I would like to thank all the children, who not only give us a reason to get up in the morning, but are often the reason we are smiling when we go to bed in the evening.

As they would say back in New Zealand – “Meri Kerihimete” or Merry Christmas

Warmest wishes

Jason Osprey and all the team at BPS – *PS: We hope the children enjoy their little bag of sweets we have given as a small Christmas gift.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE – Positive Covid-19 cases:

Incredibly we have not had to close any of our classes or bubbles yet due to a direct case of Covid-19, however it is still possible that this could happen. If, after we close, any child or adult who has been working in school tests positive then they need to contact school so we can start the contact tracing process. Please see the table below:

