

**Headteacher: Miss Harsha Patel**

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**Bell Lane Primary School**

**& Children's Centre**

**Bell Lane, Hendon, NW4 2AS**

**Website: [www.belllaneprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.belllaneprimaryschool.co.uk)**

*'Striving for Excellence'*

13/3/2020

Dear Bell Lane Families,

As you will know, the situation regarding COVID-19 is changing on a regular basis, but I thought it would be appropriate to let you know of our current planning and the measures that we are putting in place as the threat of the virus rises.

We are pleased that our staff and pupil body remains in good health and that we are continuing to offer a normal programme of education in classes for all the children. However, we recognise that it would now be appropriate to look at measures which limit large gatherings of pupils in confined indoor spaces to a minimum. We therefore plan that from tomorrow we will not hold our regular assemblies where large numbers of children and staff are gathered together for an extended period. At lunchtimes we plan to extend the period slightly and to regulate the flow of pupils through the Dining Hall over that time to ensure that there is more space between pupils when they are eating.

Unfortunately, we do not think it will be possible to invite parents, friends and grandparents in to attend performances between now and the end of term, so events such as the Y4 Mothers day assembly, will only be performed to small groups of staff and pupils within the School. However, we will arrange for all these events to be recorded so that you can have the chance to view these at a later date. We also feel that we will need to postpone the Mothers' Day Read a book and Tea party which was a special events.

At this stage we will continue with Parents Afternoon so that you are able meet with your class teacher.

These changes will not affect the normal lessons or indeed the normal school day where, instead of assemblies, pupils will be looked after in their normal class. We continue to hope that you are emphasising to your children, as we are, the need for sensible hygiene measures, especially including regular handwashing as frequently as possible. In line with best advice we have turned off all hand and hair dryers across the Schools and ensured that paper hand towels are available instead. We also feel that it would now be more appropriate to discourage shaking hands on meeting visitors and hope that this will be understood and cause no offence. We will be requesting all pupils to bring in their own water bottles.



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I would like to say that at present, we have no reason to believe there is any cause for additional concern in our school. We will continue to monitor absences in line with our current procedures. We ask you to continue to work with us and not send your child into school if they are unwell.

We ask all parents to log onto class dojo so that we are able to communicate with you and you are able to communicate with your class teacher.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to speak to members of the Senior Leadership Team or your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Head Teacher

