



Boston Nursery School Spring Term Newsletter 2021

Welcome back. We hope you had a good, if quieter, Christmas and would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happier and more joyful New Year.

This term we welcome two new members of staff to our nursery. Mrs Kathryn Hutton is our new Head of School and is a well qualified and experienced early years teacher who firmly believes young children learn most effectively through stimulating and engaging play opportunities. Our other new teacher, Mrs Lauren Crawford, is highly motivated and embarking on her career as an early years teacher. They are both looking forward to getting to know your children and working in partnership with you to support your child reach their potential.



Mrs. Crawford
Pre-school Teacher



Mrs Hutton
Head of School

Mrs. Crawford will be taking over Miss Smith's Keyworker children group.

Coronavirus Update



As you are aware, our area has been in Tier 4 which is the highest alert in England, and we now join the rest of the UK in an extended period of national lockdown. **Current government advice is that Nursery Schools should remain OPEN during this lockdown period.** Providing safe and well delivered early years education is still the priority of Boston Nursery School, despite the restrictions a national lockdown imposes on all of us.

We need to be extra vigilant in order to reduce introduction and transmission of Covid-19 in our nursery school.



We thank you for assisting us in operating our rolling drop-off and collection times. Please try to select the quietest times in order to reduce congestion and the number of people with whom you will come into contact.

We remind you that **only one adult** should accompany each family group. Please continue to maintain a two-metre distance from our staff and from each other. You might decide to wear a mask whilst on the school site.

Our essential measures for opening are:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home;
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene;
- enhanced cleaning arrangements;
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace;
- reduced contacts and maximised distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimising potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable.

Please note: for the sake of reducing transmission of the virus, the school office and wider building continue to be closed to parents and carers. However, should you need to contact us, you may telephone nursery on 01205 358647, and we will respond as quickly as possible. Our staff are still here and eager to help.

Coronavirus Symptoms

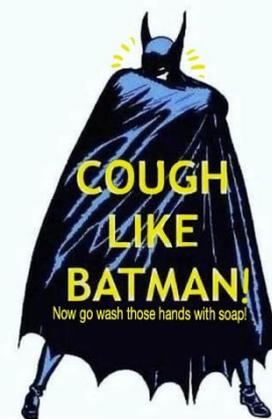
You must not send your child into school with coronavirus symptoms - no matter how mild those symptoms might be. Equally, if any other member of your child's household is displaying symptoms, your child must stay at home.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

I have a **fever**.



- a high temperature - this means your child **feels hot to touch on their chest or back** (you do not need to measure your child's temperature);



- a new, continuous cough - this means **coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours** (if your child usually has a cough, it may be worse than usual);



- a loss or change to your child's sense of smell or taste - this means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different from normal.

The child does not have to exhibit all the symptoms above - **just one**. Most children have mild symptoms, or none at all, so please do not take a risk by sending them into school - **get a test**.

If any member of your household is exhibiting any of the symptoms, your whole household must self-isolate until the result of a test is known. This means you must not send your child into school if a sibling or parent is waiting for a test result. Everyone in the house must self-isolate.

It is illegal to break self-isolation laws.

We are aware that the ever-changing rules are confusing. Let the office know if you are worried about your child, or unsure what to do, but do not bring them into school. We are always happy to advise you.



If your child is sent home due to having symptoms, their sibling(s) will also need to be collected so that the household can self-isolate. Remember to collect siblings from other schools as well. You only need to arrange a test for the child who is unwell.

Unless the school is advised of a negative test result, your child will not be able to return to school for ten days (their sibling(s) must also stay away for ten days). This is in line with the Government guidelines. However, getting a test is relatively quick and most children have their test results within 48 hours.

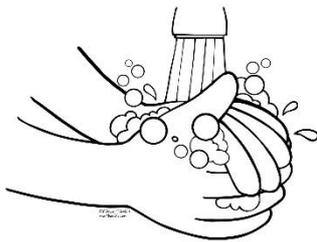
Should your child's test result be positive, please contact the school as a matter of urgency.

The school is obliged to report all children with positive results to the local health protection team who will advise the school on any course of action required. We need to make decisions quickly about other children and staff who could be identified as 'close contacts' in order to prevent an outbreak in school.



It is important to continue to take this disease seriously. Remember, children tend not to get particularly ill with Covid-19 - thankfully. This is why it is important that we all engage with the NHS Test and Trace, even when symptoms are mild and no matter how inconvenient it might be.

Handwashing to Defeat Covid-19



Everyone in school is washing their hands more often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand washing with soap employs a mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses from the skin, rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands thoroughly afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus.

Out of school, hand sanitiser can be effective if soap is not available or the situation makes using soap less feasible (eg when outside) but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing hands together and rinsing with water provides.

Please do not allow your children to bring hand sanitiser into school. They will always have access to soap and water. If possible, please leave hand creams at home as they

provide a 'sticky surface' for the virus to adhere to on children's hands. Should your child's hands become dry, it is safer to apply plenty of cream when they get home. However, if your child's hands are particularly sore, they may bring in their own hand cream. Please ensure this is clearly named.

Everyone in school has dry hands due to the frequent handwashing. However, this is a small price to pay to keep our children and wider community safe.

Face Coverings



The Government advises against the use of face coverings for young children. They also recommend keeping rooms well ventilated, even in wintery weather. This means there may be days when your child feels a little chilly, so please feel free to send them to nursery with warmer clothes for example, an extra, warm jumper, woolly hats, scarves and gloves, and of course a warm outdoor coat. We will be making the most of our outdoor area each day as viral transmission outdoors is limited.

A Message from the Parliament Federation's Governing Body

Despite these strange times we find ourselves in, we hope you managed to have a good Christmas and would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year.

The Governing Body is an elected group, including school staff, parents and members of the local community. We work as a voluntary team with the Executive Head Teacher and the Heads of School for the benefit of all the pupils and staff across the Federation.

Admission to Primary School in September - Act Now!

Applications for a primary school place must be submitted to Lincolnshire County Council who allocate places on behalf of all Lincolnshire Primary Schools. You may apply at:

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

or make a telephone application by contacting the Education Team on 01522 782030. The closing date to secure a place is **before 12 noon on 15th January 2021**.



Boston Nursery School is Open!

Remember, every child is entitled to 15 hours a week at our teacher-led Nursery **completely free**. This can be taken in the morning, in the afternoon or all day as long as we have enough places available. Afternoon places are often easier to secure than morning places which are regularly oversubscribed.

As well as the 15 free hours a week, to which all three-year-olds are entitled, we offer additional sessions over and above these as well as increased flexibility when selecting sessions for your child. You may choose mornings, afternoon, or a mix of both, including full days - or even 5 full days a week. We will do our best to accommodate your request.

Additional sessions, above the free entitlement of 15 hours, may be purchased at a cost of £12.50 for 3 hours. This is extremely competitive locally. Eligible working parents may be entitled to **30 free hours** for their child. Lunch club is also available if required. Children bring their own packed lunch and a fee of £3 to cover supervision costs is required for each lunch club session attended.

We also have a classroom dedicated to two year olds, at a cost of £14.50 per session, although some 2 year olds may be entitled

to 15 free hours (5 sessions). Please contact nursery school for further information.

If you know anyone else who might benefit from our excellent Nursery facilities, please let them know.

Remember, we are also the only local provider with **fully qualified, school teachers**.

Other Safety Reminders

If you have changed your address or telephone number recently, please ensure that you have let the office staff know. We must be able to contact you in case of an emergency. Also, ensure that the school has at least one other emergency telephone contact, in addition to your own, in case we are unable to contact you. Remember that this number may also need updating.

Also please remember to contact nursery **on the morning of the first day** of your child's absence.

Reminders



Thank you for not bringing dogs or other animals onto the school site. Thank you also for not using your phone in the school building - this is a safeguarding precaution. We are a non-smoking site; this includes all

outdoor areas such as the playground. We do not allow e-cigarettes to be smoked as we expect all adults on our site to act as good role models, and many of our children are not able to distinguish between the two types of cigarette. Please note: it is illegal to smoke on the site of a maintained nursery school.

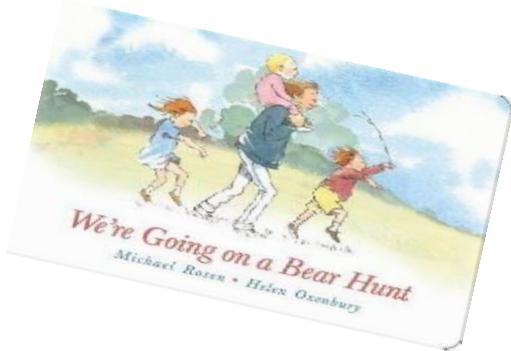


Some of our children risk suffering a life threatening reaction to nuts and kiwi fruit - even by being in the vicinity of a nut or kiwi. For this reason, we ask that no child bring any food items into school that contain nuts or kiwi fruit, even for their own consumption.



This Term's Themes:

Little Owls will be finding out all about 'Colours' and 'Bears'. Children will be engaging in lots of sensory experiences to help them learn about colours and bears. We may get very messy!



Big Owls will be telling us what they enjoy and like to do, as well as finding out all about Space!



World Book Day is on 4th March 2021.

We will be enjoying our favourite books and story characters in lots of different ways! Please help your child foster a love of stories and books by supporting this event. You can borrow a book from our library in the reception area to enjoy reading with your child

at home.



Dates for your Diary:



Parent Consultations will take place during the week beginning **8th March 2021**.

A letter will be sent to you nearer the time inviting you to make an appointment with your child's key worker. These appointments will most likely be telephone consultations due to Covid-19 restrictions.

- 4.1.21 First day of term 3
- 22.2.21 First day of term 4
- 1.4.21 Last day of term 4
- 19.4.21 First day of term 5
- 28.5.21 Last day of term 5

7.6.21 First day of term 6

22.7.21 Last Day of term 6

Term dates up to the summer holiday:

TERM 3:	Monday 4 th January 21 – Friday 12 th February 21	30 days
TERM 4:	Monday 22 nd February 21 – Thursday 1 st April 21	29 days
TERM 5:	Monday 19 th April 21 – Friday 28 th May 21 <i>May Day Monday 3rd May</i>	29 days
TERM 6:	Monday 7 th June 21 – Thursday 22 nd July 2021	34 days

Term dates for 2021 - 2022:

TERM 1:	Wednesday 1 st September 21 – Friday 15 th October 21	33 days
TERM 2:	Monday 1 st November 21– Friday 17 th December 21	35 days
TERM 3:	Tuesday 4 th January 22 – Friday 11 th February 22	29 days
TERM 4:	Monday 21 st February 22 – Friday 1 st April 22	30 days
TERM 5:	Tuesday 19 th April 22 – Friday 27 th May 22 <i>May Day Monday 2nd May</i>	28 days
TERM 6:	Monday 6 th June 22 – Friday 22 nd July 2022	35 days