

15th May 2020

Planning to return

The school just doesn't feel right without the pupils. We notice this on training days when the staff are altogether but there are no children and this is even clearer during the lockdown when only one or two people are in school.

Holbrook School comes alive when the pupils and staff are here together; there is a buzz in the air of excited learning, the smiles on children's faces as they look to tackle new challenges and the chatter of shared stories and experiences.

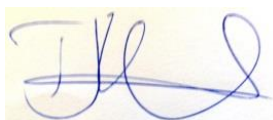
Ever since the school closed its doors to the majority of pupils on 20th March, as a school team we have been thinking about when we reopen. After a week of leaving the school totally empty, Mr Connell and his team of cleaners have been busy doing an excellent job of deep cleaning everything in school, walls have been painted, and even some building work has started to improve the school for the future.

Just like returning the country to normality after 8 weeks of lockdown; reopening our school so that it is as safe as we can make it for pupils and staff is a challenge. We know that the rest of this term won't be completely normal for pupils or staff and it will be a mix of home learning and study at school. But having seen how well staff, pupils and parents have risen to the challenge of home learning I am confident that we will all meet this new challenge with our Holbrook BEST.

The government has chosen to focus on opening Primary school's first. The safety of our pupils in our care has always been our first priority and this will continue to be the case when we reopen. Since Monday, my team and I have been looking at all the new guidance from the Government and recommendations from the Local Authority and have been thinking about how it can be applied and implemented for our school site.

When we have a plan that we think will work and will keep our children in our care as safe as possible, we will share this with parents and careers in our school community. Until then, we are continuing our remote learning from home so remember; keep safe, regularly wash your hands with hot water and soap, stay at home and keep your social distance!

Keep in touch and we will see you all soon.



Weekly Challenge

Be mindful of your BEST!

- **Be active... Aim for 60mins of exercise a day**
- **Eat healthily... Remember your five a day**
- **Sleep well**
- **Take time for you...**

Be healthy inside and out!

Challenge 15 – Cipher Spotting!

This week when you venture out of the house on a walk I want you to try and spot Royal Ciphers. (sometimes spelt cypher)
They are on a part of the street furniture we see all the time – post boxes but you might not have realised they were there or how historic they can be!
On average there is a post box within ½ mile of any house in the UK. When Mr Connolly posted out the BEST badges, he had these boxes near him!



The Royal Cipher can be seen on post boxes – it is a monogram like design of the monarch. Most commonly our current Queen – Elizabeth II – E II R but there are much older ones VR – Victoria and some very rare ones!

Nearest post box finder

<https://postboxes.dracos.co.uk/>

More about Ciphers

<https://historianruby.com/2018/04/01/royal-ciphers-on-postboxes-a-brief-guide/>

<https://www.postalmuseum.org/blog/royal-cypher-appearances/>

If you do join in this week's Cipher hunt, email in a picture to challenge@holbrookprimary.com that can be shared on the school's social media any entries that impress Mr Connolly could make the BEST assembly and then you might get a badge and certificate through the post!

URGENT! CONTACT DETAILS

Have you been receiving the School Comms Text Messages over the last few weeks?

If **not** we need your updated contact details.

Please email us with:-

- Children's names and classes
- Your name and relation to the child mum/dad/guardian
- Mobile Telephone number

updatecontacts@holbrook.coventry.sch.uk

We will then update the system in school so when we have any urgent messages, we can text them out to you.



Kindness

Please click on the image to find out more.