

GREAT BRADFORDS JUNIOR SCHOOL
Marlborough Road
Braintree
CM7 9LW

Headteacher: Mr Justin Wrench

Tel: (01376) 326739

E Mail: admin@gbjs.co.uk

Dear Parent / Carer,

Firstly, I want to thank you for your support to the national response to the Coronavirus pandemic. Yesterday, I sent you an email from Clare Kershaw, Director of Education, at Essex County Council and I also recognise that being at home with your child(ren) and supporting their continued learning, alongside your own work and wellbeing, is a significant challenge in what are both unprecedented and worrying times. However, we do know that this action is helping to reduce the spread of the virus and helping to save lives.

Staying in touch

To support all parents at this difficult time, we have set up a school Facebook page so we can all stay in touch. This can be found by clicking:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/216089366310316/> or searching for Great Bradfords Junior School on Facebook

This has enabled us to stay in contact with as many of you as possible. This group has been designed so we can share online learning sites and provide plenty of learning opportunities, if you wish to continue to educate your child at home. To find links easily they can be found in the **announcements** at the top of the page. Also, you can search in the group to find anything you wish that has previously been posted e.g. maths, English or logins – these have now been shared numerous times.

I also wanted for us to stay connected and I have been impressed by the creative and practical learning opportunities that have been shared by many children. It's been great to see so much kindness and positive community spirit where support, advice and guidance has been shared. The group has been extremely popular with over 6500 posts, comments or reactions in under a month.

May I please ask that any posts to the group are kept positive, proactive and supportive. If you have enquiries or requests for support, these should be emailed to admin@gbjs.co.uk. I am sure that you will understand that we are staffed at a limited capacity at present so replies will take longer than usual.

Later this week, teachers will be sending a letter via email to the children. Look out for these on Friday!

Home Support

On Sunday, the government launched a series of measures for families to assist with remote education, wellbeing and general support. The guidance can be found here alongside a whole list of on-line resources for you to use. If your child(ren) has SEND need, support can also be found in these resources.



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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources>

In addition, the BBC have launched bitesize daily lessons, details of which can be found here - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>.

The DfE have also launched the Oak National Academy to support parents - below is a link to their daily schedules.

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/schedule>

Most importantly – stay safe!

I want to reiterate the advice from the DfE and ECC and assure you that there is no expectation that your child(ren)'s education should continue as it would if they were attending school daily. We fully understand that during this unprecedented time, normal education across the country has been suspended. Therefore, any daily support, both in terms of academic learning and physical and emotional wellbeing you can provide is to be applauded, and please do not worry about your ability to replace your child(ren)'s normal education during this time. When schools do re-open, our teachers and staff will work as hard and as quickly as possible to bridge any gaps in your child(ren)'s learning.

On behalf of your everyone at Great Bradfords Junior School I would like to thank you for your continued support during this difficult time.

Kind regards,

Mr Justin Wrench

Headteacher



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