



Blanche Nevile School Newsletter

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Friday 20th March 2020

Dear parents,

Thank you so much for your patience whilst we plan for uncertain times.

The government has asked schools to stay open to the children of key workers and vulnerable children.

Key workers are defined as those working in:

- Health and social care
- Education and childcare
- Key public service
- Local and national government
- Foods and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communication and financial services

Vulnerable children include children with Education, Health Care Plans and because of this we will keep Blanche Nevile School open for as long as we are able to do so safely.

We will be operating a shorter school day and will be open to pupils from **9:30 to 13:30**. This arrangement will be in place from Monday 23rd March for Secondary pupils and Tuesday 24th March for Primary pupils.

Pupils in Early Years (Nursery and Reception) and Year 1 will stay at our Primary site as we do not have the facilities for them at Secondary at present. Many thanks to William Dean Headteacher for allowing us to do so. All other Primary pupils will be at our Secondary site and staff will be busy on Monday setting up their classrooms.

Our children come from 15 different London boroughs and I have been heartened by messages of support and thanks from their SEND teams including transport providers.

In addition to running a limited provision, staff will be keeping in touch with students on at least a weekly basis and we will be sending home learning packs on a fortnightly basis.

The government has recognised that schools will not be able to provide education as usual, we have been asked to provide care. We will of course provide learning opportunities for pupils at school and at home and these will be different.

I would like to thank my Senior Leadership Team, Teachers, BSL Tutors, Communication Support Workers, Learning Support Assistants, School Business Manager, Admin Team and SMSAs at Primary and Secondary for their hard work and support over the last few challenging week. I recognise the pressure they have been put under to continue to come to work when so many of the workforce have been told to stay at home and not use public transport. Their continued attendance is testament to their commitment to our pupils and the school.

Please stay in touch and I send you and your families my very best wishes during these uncertain and unprecedented times. We look forward to welcoming our pupils and staff back to school as soon as we are allowed to do so.

Heulwen Rees
Headteacher

Miss Daly and Mrs Christian write:

Students in Years 9 & 10 went to the Old Diorama Art Centre on the 11th March and were greeted by former student Tedi Lena. After leaving Blanche Nevile Tedi went on to gain a degree in Art. His has won countless awards for his portraits and landscaped and has had his work displayed at the National Gallery. During the day, Tedi modelled using pastels to create still life art works. Congratulations to prize winners Jonathan and Luul!



Miss Donovan writes:



Science Day was a huge success. The theme was **Our Diverse Planet**. We made bath bombs and learned about chemical reactions by finding out how much acid or baking soda makes a bath bomb fizz. We used a tally chart to find out what colours and smells we preferred. Finally, we packaged our bath bombs in beautifully hand made boxes made out of recycled materials. It was great having pupils from Years 5 and 6 with us too!

Mrs Christian Writes:

Students on School Council make a tremendous team. They worked together to organise this year's Sport Relief money collection and raised a fabulous **£85.72!** They also presented a fact full assembly that really highlighted the excellent work of this charity both in the UK and abroad.

Thank you so much to everyone .



Omar Writes:

Years 5 & 6 rehearsed, acted and filmed the classic story 'Around the World in Eighty Days' as part of their literacy learning. They learned how to direct actors and work in a team to ensure the high quality of their film.



Kathryn Writes:

Here are some photos of happy times at Blanche Nevile Primary:



The Primary team says thank you for all your support and best wishes. Please feel free to contact us if you need our help. We will be keeping in touch. You are all in our thoughts at these difficult times. Please take care!