

24/02/2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you managed a restful half-term week and enjoyed the break - under normal circumstances, the half-term week doesn't usually provide families with such a break!

With regard to the recent announcement that schools will be open for all pupils from 8th March, staff at Barrow 1618 are really excited to be welcoming the children back!

In school, we are currently busy making preparations for their return. It will be so lovely to have everyone together again and I'm sure it will make life easier for all concerned.

From listening to the news and other sources, you will be aware that rigorous safety procedures shall remain place; our risk assessment is currently being reviewed to ensure that the school community are confident that all possible measures have been taken to avoid the risk to health and future closure. Further details will be provided next week.

However, it may be helpful for you to know, in advance, that our staggered start and finish times are planned to be the same as they were, prior to the lockdown, before the Christmas holidays. In fact, we anticipate that procedures for this new re-opening to all pupils will reflect those that were in place during the second half of the Autumn Term. Reminders will be included in the detailed information that will be sent out, via email.

In the meantime, please support our upcoming events. Next week, on Thursday 4th March, Barrow 1618 will be celebrating **World Book Day**:

The Masked Reader – Children will be invited to take on the 'Masked Reader' challenge. Staff members, across the school, are going to be reading stories/story extract in disguise. The children will be able to watch video clips and try to figure out which staff member is behind the mask. Be prepared for some surprises!

Reading Star Challenge – There will be a reading challenge assigned to all children and anybody who completes it will receive a certificate. Please look out for this on Seesaw.

£1 Book Voucher – As always, every child will be provided with a £1 book voucher.

Other book-themed activities will be shared on Seesaw on this day.

In addition, we are putting together a reading display in school and would love to receive pictures of your child reading in unusual places. The stranger, the better! With permission, these could be shared on the school website. Please send any contributions to the school office by the end of next week.

For Red Nose Day this year, Friday March 19th, the children will be back in school so we will all be able to have fun and fund-raise for comic relief together. You will receive further information closer to the time.

With only a short time remaining to continue with the home-learning, all of the staff at Barrow 1618 would like to thank you for your amazing efforts and resilience. We are grateful for your support and feel that the teamwork that has been shown throughout our school community at this challenging time has been commendable. Thank you!

Yours sincerely,

Sian Stephenson

(Headteacher)