

Monday 22nd June 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

SCHOOL CLOSURE UPDATE

As we begin the last four weeks of the academic year I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a brief update and to thank you for your continuing support.

As you are already aware, on 1st June we opened our school for children in Reception Class, Y1 and Y6. We also continued with our provision for the children of key workers.

We have been incredibly careful to implement social distancing measures, infection protection and control routines. The changes we have implemented have ensured that our children have had limited contact with each other and those outside their own group/bubble. I thank you all for your support in making these changes happen.

Our small groups are now full to capacity and even if the government decreases the social distancing measure from 2 metres to 1 metre this week, ***we will now not be able to admit any more children to school before September.*** The simple reason for this is that we do not have enough teaching staff or space within the school to maintain the safety measures we have worked so hard to implement.

I understand that this information may be disappointing for you and your child if you were hoping to return before September, but I hope you understand that the safety of all members of our school community is paramount. We are currently trying to plan virtual whole class meet-ups between now and the end of term and we will let you know how this will work in due course.

For those parents who are currently sending their children to school, we respectfully request that you ensure your child attends every day and that you are punctual at drop off and collection times. Unless you are a key worker, school is not a 'drop-in' service and we politely ask for your commitment to sending your child to school every day during this time. If you are unable to commit then please let us know so that we can offer your child's place to another family.

September Return

At the moment, we are planning for business as usual in September. We really want to see all our children back to school, but only when it is safe. We will be following government guidance and will keep you up to date in the usual way.

I understand that many of you will be anxious that your child has 'fallen behind' academically during lockdown. We know that you've all been working hard to support with home-learning and many children have benefitted greatly from being at home. However, for many parents it has been difficult to juggle work and other responsibilities, to teach their children at home and to deal with the anxiety of what is happening in the outside world. Please don't worry, we are already planning a catch-up programme for next academic year and I am confident, that with your support, our children will continue to make progress.

For your information, the first day of term will be Thursday 3rd September 2020. All other term dates are available on our school website at the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/StAsTermDates2020>

Summer Holidays

At this moment in time, we have no plans to be open during the Summer holidays and will not be providing daily work online. We think it is important for everyone to enjoy family time together over the holidays without the need to complete school work.

However, you will still be able to access learning from our recommended websites at:

<https://tinyurl.com/morelinkstolearning>

I will continue to keep you updated as and when necessary and, in the meantime, I hope that you and your families are keeping well and continuing to look after each other in the way that you know best.

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Mitchell
Executive Headteacher