



Newsletter June 2020



Welcome back Reception and Year 6!

It has been great to welcome back more children to school! Despite initial nerves the children have enjoyed their time in school. It has been good to see them catch up with friends and be back in their classrooms. School looks a bit different, of course. We have had to put in place a number of social distancing measures and there are lots of sanitising stations around.

We have been keeping the children in small groups (or Bubbles), staggering drop off and pick up times and making sure that they know what they can do to look after themselves and others.

When will other year groups come back?

The government has announced that schools cannot reasonably manage to have all primary aged children back in school this term. We cannot maintain our safe systems if we welcome back all children. However, I do want to give as many children as possible some time in school before the end of term. It would not be fair on all the other children to continue the time in school for Reception children and Year 6 only and not give the other children some time in school too. It would also be ideal for children to have the chance to meet next year's teacher and carry out some transition activities.

Schools have to complete a very full risk assessment which is continually updated as and when necessary. We need to manage our return carefully and the numbers of children back at any time too.

Now we need to consider how to move forward this term. It may be the case that we have to prioritise year groups. For example, Year 2 children will benefit from transition work and possibly visit the junior school, Nursery 2 children will need time in Reception. Perhaps we ought to consider the children who have not been able to complete school work while at home – do they need time back in school? Many children in the other year groups will want to see their teacher again, finding it hard to be motivated to do their school work and will be missing school. We really want to see the children too so we are working out how to get the children back for some time in school before the summer bearing in mind the constraints of the virus.

It would be good to hear your views and I would welcome emails with your suggestions or ideas.

Plans for September

It seems like the government are hinting that schools may not be fully back to normal in September. We need to prepare for this and so do you as families. We know that we need to look again at our "**Virtual School**" – the home learning that is supported remotely by school. We know that learning at home will be getting more and more tricky and we want to refresh our home learning. More news to follow on this!

If you are struggling in your family home with this, how can we help you to do this better?

Perhaps you could look at the IT that you can get at home for your child. If you need support with this, let school know.

Perhaps we will need to plan for some time in school and some time learning at home.

Facebook

It has been great to see so many lovely activities taking place at home and to have them on our Facebook pages. Thank you for sharing these with us – keep sending them to us as we love to see what you have been doing.



Food boxes

We know that times are hard for many people which is why we are always happy to put forward families for food boxes. Please get in touch if you would like to be on this weekly list.

Learning packs

Many of our families are taking full advantage of the packs of activities we are creating for home learning. Please keep a look out on Facebook for when the packs are available for collection from school. We are very happy to print off resources, send home crafty things or project packs.

Please return library books

When lockdown was announced, we let the children take lots of library books home. This was a bit of a leap of faith as we didn't know how long lockdown would be!

However, I am sure that these books will have been read by now and it is time to start getting them back. They will need to go into quarantine and then scanned back in to our system.

When you are out on your daily walk and the school gates are open, please can you drop your library books off in the box at the front of the school. Don't worry about putting a name along with the books as our library system will be able to tell who has dropped them off!

We don't want to have large gaps in our schools libraries so have a good hunt round and bring back any school books please.

We are planning to get new books home soon. We want to encourage our children to keep reading and we will let you know when the next books are available for collection.



Keep safe and look after yourselves!

Mrs McCarney

Headteacher