



16<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### **Re-opening of schools**

I hope you are all safe and well.

Since my last letter to you it has been an incredible week! I am sure that you are all aware that schools have been tasked with re-opening to specific year groups in the week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> June, **'dependent upon the continued reduced transmission of COVID-19 and the science indicating that it is safe to do so'**.

Schools have been asked to:

- Re-open the school for the youngest pupils in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 and our oldest pupils in Year 6.
- Continue providing home learning for children in Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5.
- Teach in groups of no more than 15 children in 'protective bubbles' with the continuity of being taught by their dedicated adult.
- Continue to teach in school the children of critical workers and vulnerable children. Those who are members of returning classes will join them and those in classes not returning will continue to attend school in their own 'bubble'.

At Hawley, in order to ensure that we are prepared for children to return to school, we have begun the lengthy process of conducting a risk assessment of the school environment following the DfE guidance. The risk assessment is necessarily thorough and involves making adaptations to school routines, processes and procedures, and looking at what we can do to make the school safe for pupils and staff.

Significantly, the risk assessment also involves ensuring that we have enough available members of staff who are not shielding, self-quarantined or vulnerable in order to ensure that all of the adaptations we need to be make are viable. It is extremely important to us at Hawley that when we open, we are confident enough to teach the children in a safe environment and that you feel confident enough to send them to school.

The key messages remain the same; stringently high levels of personal hygiene, thorough cleanliness throughout the school, and social distancing. We have already started to take measures to install free standing hand sanitising stations in the school and to purchase a

significant amount of cleaning and protective products and equipment. However, while it is clear that the children and adults have to adhere to social distancing whilst moving around the school, it is also clear to us that with young children, it will not be possible to strictly adhere to social distancing rules, particularly within their 'protective bubbles' .

I am also very aware of the role that parents have to play in keeping to these rules, and a slightly staggered start and end to the school day is something that we will be proposing in order to avoid large numbers of parents at the school gate.

It has become apparent to us that we will not be able to open our Nursery Class. A number of our nursery team are either shielding, self-quarantined, vulnerable or living with someone who is compromised, and we will not be able to provide enough appropriately qualified early years staff to meet the requirements to run the nursery.

We are still in the planning phase of preparing for the children's return, and when we have completed our risk assessment, will be in a better position to give you more detail and inform you as to how and when the children will return to school.

I know that many of you are conflicted as to whether or not your children should return to school. However, the school has been tasked with preparing for the children's return and that's what we are doing to the best of our ability. We miss your children terribly, but it is important to remember the caveat that the opening of the school will be **'dependent upon the continued reduced transmission of COVID-19 and the science indicating that it is safe to do so'**.

### **Whitsun Bank Holiday Monday and Half Term (25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May)**

Next week is Bank Holiday Monday and half-term. As with previous holidays during Lockdown, the children will be given some holiday activities for the week. However, teachers will not be available throughout the week as they will be writing school reports. It is a legal requirement that parents receive an annual report from the school.

Although your children have not been in school since 20<sup>th</sup> March, school closed at the point when Spring Term assessments had been completed. Teachers will be reporting on attitudes to learning and predictions of progress based on attainment at that time.

Reports will be sent out later this term.

### **PACE Play Scheme**

Once again we are extremely grateful to PACE, who will be running a play scheme for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children during half term. This time the play scheme will be held at Hawley from **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May**. Children who registered previously do not need to register again, but they need to inform the office if they are going to attend. Children currently attending school, who were not previously registered and wish to attend, need to go to the school office to fill in a registration form.

**Arts Week (1<sup>st</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> June)**

After the huge success of our Science Week, we are very pleased to be planning our Arts Week, which will be taking place in the week after half term. Please do not worry about the resources that might be needed as we are aiming to ensure that you can use the resources you have at home. More information to follow, but if pencils and paper are in short supply, do not hesitate to contact school nearer the time.

Over the next couple of weeks, please look out for a letter in the post addressed to your child/children with a creative task for them to complete.

**Race to Health at Home (11<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> May)**

If you haven't registered yet there is still a week to go. For those who have already registered don't forget to log your activity. We are looking forward to keeping that trophy!

**Another huge THANK YOU**

Wow! Many thanks to all those families in our school community who were so generous last week. Thanks to you, several families were able to provide food for their children over the coming week and beyond. All of the recipients of your donations expressed their sincere gratitude to you all.

**TOP TIP****Get creative - make something!**

It has been amazing to see how resourceful and creative you have been with your children. Have you done something for yourself? Making something or acquiring a new skill can be satisfying and give great pleasure. Happy you, happy family!

**Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week**



**Birthdays between 16th and 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020**

**Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

16th May - **Agnes** (Nursery)

**Happy 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

16<sup>th</sup> May – **Alfedros (Alfie)** (Year 3)

18<sup>th</sup> May – **Aaliya** (Year 3)

18<sup>th</sup> May - **Adam** (Year 3)

**Happy 11<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

19<sup>th</sup> May - **Grace** (Year 6)

22<sup>nd</sup> May - **Loveday** (Year 6)

**Wishing you all a wonderful day!**

Thank you all for your continued support.

Keep safe.

Anne Fontaine  
Headteacher