



21st June 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you are all safe and well.

In spite of the weather (well the plants were happy!) we had a wonderful week at Hawley last week, the highlight of which was the sight of 25 of our Reception pupils returning to school last Monday. They all seemed so happy and were incredibly adaptable to the changes we have made in the school; they were able to follow the new routines and worked very well collaboratively.

We have had a relatively good uptake of children wishing to return to school

- 86% Reception
- 60% Year 1
- 80% Year 6

We also still have a small class of critical workers' children and vulnerable children.

Everyone has had different experiences of being in lockdown and for some, the trauma or difficulties that they have experienced, the need to shield others in their family and/or the general concerns they have about the relaxation of lockdown are for them, viable reasons not to return their children to school right now.

We are still in the process of trying to enable more children to come in to school. We will be in contact with families this week, once we have ascertained what might be possible.

I am sure that you are all aware of the Government's announcement that they would like to see all primary pupils returning to school in the Autumn Term. We are hopeful that this will be the case. We have also been informed that they will provide 'catch up' funding to support vulnerable pupils who have fallen behind as a result of the coronavirus outbreak.

The Government has promised funding for a National Tutoring Programme, which will span both primary and secondary schools. The tutoring programme will target the most disadvantaged children and will come in the form of NTP tutors, external to the school, or NTP coaches who will work in school to provide intensive one-to-one or small group in-school support.

Unfortunately, schools receive information about new government initiatives at the same time that you do. We do not know how much of this funding we will receive and therefore, we cannot plan for its use as yet.

Free school meals vouchers

Families and schools drew a sigh of relief that free school meals vouchers will continue throughout the summer holiday. It is amazing that the words of a now successful young man, whose family depended on free school meals when he was a child, managed to change the mind of the Government, to enable disadvantaged children to have at least one meal a day during the summer break.

Day after day more families start to experience difficulties and for some there is a long gap between running out of money and receiving universal credit, or being entitled to free school meals. Last week, ten minutes after I spoke to one of our families in this very situation, one of our parents (as if by magic) walked in to school with two carrier bags full of food. That family of five were extremely grateful. That act of kindness and generosity was very timely. An enormous thank you goes out to that parent.

You do not have to bring food to us as there are several charities in Camden that distribute food to those who need it. All the local supermarkets have boxes where you can drop off food or you can take food to the Castlehaven Community Centre, which is local to the school.

If you are in need, please contact Karishma of The Mutual Aid Group – Tel: 07841 348545.

Well done Marcus Rashford!

Several parents have asked for next years' term dates. Our provisional dates are attached and they are on our website. Please note that these dates are subject to change dependent on the situation regarding the coronavirus.

Wednesday, 2nd and Thursday, 3rd September will be INSET days. We plan on having an Induction Day on Friday, 4th September for children to meet their new teacher. Further details to follow.



Birthdays between 22 and 28 June 2020

Happy 4th Birthday

23rd June – **Gabriel** (Nursery)

23rd June – **Leo** (Nursery)

Happy 5th Birthday

23rd June – **Ethan S** (YR)

28th June – **Sidonie** (YR)

Wishing you all a wonderful day!

Thank you all for your continued support.
Keep safe.

Anne Fontaine
Headteacher

School is open Monday to Thursday only. School is closed on Fridays for additional cleaning