

6<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all safe and well.

Last week it was lovely to welcome our final bubble back to school. Year 2 pupils were excited and happy to return. It is unfortunate that we could not welcome more children back to school, but the class teachers from Years 3,4 and 5 have reported that they had great Zoom meetings with their pupils and they are looking forward to speaking to speaking to them again next week.

The good news is that last week, the government informed us that they expect all schools to open to all pupils in September. They, and we, appreciate that returning to school is vital for children's education and wellbeing and so, although there will still be some changes and limitations to how we function, we will be happy to see all pupils back to school and working with as full a curriculum as we can deliver.

From September

- It will be mandatory for all children to attend school. Parents cannot chose to keep children at home
- We will need to continue to have a staggered start and end to the school day and different drop off and collection points.
- Playtimes and lunch times will be staggered. This may mean that we will only be able to provide packed school lunches for those that require them.
- The bubbles will we be expanded to enable whole classes to form a bubble, as opposed the current situation where only a maximum of 15 children can form a bubble.
- COVID-19 secure measures will remain in place, with children self-isolating at home where needed.

At the beginning of the Autumn Term, **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** will be used as an induction day for all pupils to introduce them to their new classrooms and the new systems that we will have put in place.

Clearly there is much to plan and prepare for before the end of term and over the summer. We will be reassessing all of our current procedures in line with government guidance and we will aim to give you as much information as we can before the end of term.

As a school we also think that it is crucial that we revisit our curriculum to ensure that it is diverse and robust enough to enable all pupils catch up with and continue their learning at an appropriately rigorous pace.

We will also be looking at how we would like to use the catch up funding, that the government has promised, for use in the Autumn Term.

## **Google Classroom**

One key expectation of the government is that schools 'continue to build their capability to educate pupils remotely, where this is needed'. Essentially this means that should there be another wave of infection and we need to rely on online learning again at some point in the future, we need to be prepared to deliver it.

At the start of the lockdown the vast majority of schools did not have an online learning presence, and we were one of them. On recommendation, we used SeeSaw, and some schools used other learning platform. We like SeeSaw because there is a degree of interaction with the children that is not available with many other platforms. The teachers worked very hard to make it appropriate for their pupils and enjoyed using it, with making recording in their kitchens and living rooms whilst looking after children and babies. This is still a very accessible and appropriate platform, particularly for our younger pupils.

The government has realised the importance of schools being able to deliver learning online and has given all schools the opportunity, via a substantial grant, to subscribe to G Suite. We have taken advantage of this and it has enabled us to gain access to and start using Google Classroom with our older pupils. It has been a matter of just a few weeks, but we can immediately see how this has begun to transform the way in which we currently deliver online learning and how it will work for us in the future. This is secure and it can store school learning resources that can be accessed by our teachers.

Also, at a hugely subsidised rate, but at real financial stretch, we have also ordered a class set of Chromebooks (30) and will have to use £3,000 of school fund to make up the cost. This resource is crucial to us in preparing the children for the future world of study and work and will be used in all of the KS2 classes. I hope you agree with us that this is a very worthwhile use of school fund. Hopefully, in the year to come, we can save more funds to buy another class set of Chromebooks.

## **COVID Summer Food Fund**

We are very pleased that the government has recognised that some families will continue to experience increased pressure on their household budgets over the summer. They are launching a COVID Summer Food Fund, which will enable children who are eligible for benefits related free school meals to be supported over the summer. Families will receive vouchers for the 6 week holiday period. This will be set up by the school prior to the end of the Summer Term and families will receive their vouchers in the usual manner. Families will receive a voucher of £45 (per child) around 20<sup>th</sup> July and another around 10<sup>th</sup> August, totally £90 per child.

If you think you may have become eligible for Free School Meals you can still apply at <https://contact.camden.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals/>

## **Class photos**

We did not get to have class photos taken this year as we were in lockdown however one of our parents, Dudley Hinton (parent of Jem and Kit) has had the brilliant idea of creating composite photos of each class using photos sent in by parents. Dudley is prepared to do all of the collating of the photographs. All you have to do is send in an individual photograph of

your child/children. In many respects these photographs will be very different to the class photographs we usually take and will be a marker in time of the significance of this year.

Seeing as we can't have class photos as normal this year, we would like to encourage every class to put together a unique class photo from home, like the example attached.

Below are instructions from Dudley:

If you would like to take part, please can you:

- Take a photo of your child, ideally front on, from the waist up and with a brick wall as a backdrop
- If possible. please can the photo have a resolution of at least 300 DPI
- If possible, please can your child be holding a picture of work s/he has done this term, such as a rainbow picture
- Please email your photo to [dudleyhinton@gmail.com](mailto:dudleyhinton@gmail.com) with your child's name and class in the subject line **no later than Monday 13th July**
- These will then be put together in a collage and emailed out to parents in each class

## **End of Year**

### End of year reports

End of year reports will be sent out by email on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July**. This year, the children have not completed any statutory or in school end of year assessments and therefore the reports are based the Spring Term assessments completed by the teachers and their predictions for end of year attainment based on those assessments. The reports are necessarily briefer than usual.

Many of you have had regular telephone conversations with your child's class teacher and will not need to 'meet' with them but, if you have any specific queries after you have read your child's report, you will be able to book a consultation meeting with your child's teacher. This can be done via the admin email address or by calling the school office at the end of this week.

### Last week of term

On **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July** we will be having a small farewell party and presentation ceremony for our Year 6 pupils.

The children have not been able to prepare the end of year performance that they had hoped to perform, due to lockdown restrictions but they will be making a film which we will be

sharing with you all. I'm sure you join us in wishing our first ever Year 6 class the very best of luck for the future, in their new schools.

This year the last day of term will be **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July**. Exceptionally, this will be a full day at school for the children attending. Prior to the lockdown, we were due to finish on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July, but as school is closed on Fridays we will finish at the end of a full school day.



#### **Birthdays between 6<sup>th</sup> July and 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

##### **Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

8 July – **Rahmah** (Y1)

14<sup>th</sup> July- **Albie** (Y1)

##### **Happy 9<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

10 July – **Noemie** (Y4)

10 July – **Fahim** (Y4)

##### **Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

8 July – **Danny** (Y5)

**Wishing you all a wonderful day!**

Thank you all for your continued support.  
Keep safe.

Anne Fontaine  
Headteacher