15.6.2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We were so pleased to welcome back Reception, year 1 and year 6 children last week; we think they coped amazingly well throughout the week and hope they had a good week back with us. The staggered arrangements worked well and this was because parents/carers arrived for drop off and collection at the stated time, maintained social distance and left the school site promptly. Staff also did a fantastic job to ensure that that the arrangements ran smoothly. Many thanks to you all. We are not planning to change the drop off and collection times now so you should be able to get into an established routine.

You may have seen coverage of the announcement from the Department for Education last week which confirmed what many of you had probably already concluded. The government abandoned plans to fully reopen primary schools before the summer break. In addition, we now have many more children of critical workers accessing or requesting access to educational provision. We must leave some capacity should the number of children of critical workers increase since this group is prioritised for provision over all others.

In terms of children of critical workers, it remains necessary for the school to request that children of critical workers limit attendance where possible. Most parents have been extremely considerate and kept take-up of a school place to a minimum throughout the lockdown period in order to allow as many children as possible to attend on the days their parents/carers are doing critical work. If your circumstances change (for example you no longer work in a critical sector) you must inform us and it would be an expectation that your child would no longer attend since they no longer meet the eligibility criteria. This week we will be asking parents of year 1, year 6 and reception to contact their class teachers to offer an expression of interest to their child returning to school from 29th June. This, at the moment is just for us to ascertain numbers and is in no way a guarantee of a placement from 29th June. A placement will be subject to available staffing, available rooms and numbers of critical workers. As already mentioned critical workers will remain our priority.

There remains some uncertainty about the arrangements in September and it is probably unwise to speculate about this. We are expecting further announcements this week from the Department for Education. Please be assured that, over the coming weeks and months, as measures which affect society as a whole including schools change, we will stay in touch with you and keep you informed about our plans to welcome your child to school. Our primary aim is to ensure that you and your child are informed, supported and are ready to join us as soon as it is possible to do so.

There remains uncertainty about the voucher scheme as schools re-open to more children and over the summer holiday but we will continue with vouchers for as long as we are able since we feel that the vouchers are more useful, convenient and of greater value than the school packed lunches.

**Annual Reports**

We are finalising annual reports and will provide further details about how we will get these to you. We are aiming that reports will be completed and ready to be collected/emailed out in week commencing 13.7.20.

**Contact Us to Contact You**

A reminder that, if you feel that it would be beneficial to your child, for you to contact your child’s class teacher for advice, encouragement, to share or invite feedback in relation to home learning then please email the class teacher.

Thank you for your support, patience, consideration and understanding.

Yours sincerely

Becky Hawkins

Deputy Head Teacher