

15 June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this update finds you all well, safe and as healthy as you can be. It is lovely to report that, so far, everyone in school is faring well too.

We are currently at the start of our second week back in our 'bubbles'. Reception and Year 1 are happily working in the PTA tents on the bottom yard, whilst key worker children are in Class 2 and Year 6 are in Class 3. All the routines we put into place seem to be working well too, with only a few minor tweaks here and there. Good weather obviously makes things a bit easier as we can all go outside and spread out a bit more.

Last week we had a virtual Governor's meeting where we discussed the way forward for the school. The ideas coming out of the Government at the moment vary widely and no guidance or clear pathway has been developed yet. We get the same information as households do, at the same time!!!

What I would like to take the opportunity to say is that as a school we are determined to do all we can to get as many children back into school before the end of July that we can. This will totally depend on whether the 2m distancing rule changes to 1m and also whether the 15 pupil per class restriction is lifted. I am currently working on how many children we could cater for if the 2m rule changes so that we are good to go asap. Our next step would then be to look at which groups would be invited back, e.g. siblings of Reception, year 1 and Year 6 or single children households where socialisation is becoming a massive deal or children who were interacting with interventions before lockdown and so on. It will be really hard to juggle all this information and find a path forward that will hopefully work for all. You never know, the government may give us all these decisions readymade or they may not.

In preparation, please could you confirm again whether you would like your child/ren to return back to school before the end of July so that I have a more current list than I have at the moment? I am very aware that my current list was created a long time ago and your feelings may have changed (either way) since then. I'm really sorry to repeat your work, but I wouldn't want to do a lot of measuring etc and then find out that lots more people wanted to come back and have to disappoint them. With only four weeks of the term left this all may not happen, but I would like us to be ready if it does.

Warm regards,

Leonie