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Headteacher: Mel MacKinnon

9<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

### Summer Term Plans

Thank you for your ongoing understanding during these challenging times. We know that lack of detail and clarity can be confusing and upsetting for both adults and children and aim to give you as much notice as possible about the future.

Our school continues to be open to vulnerable children and the children of key workers and this will continue until the end of term. Currently, we have two 'bubbles' with children from Red, Orange and Yellow classes together and children from Green, Blue, Indigo and Violet classes together. Our numbers are rising and we may soon need to move to three bubbles. If you feel your role fits into the categories of key workers, ascribed by the Government (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>), then do get in touch with the office or myself via phone or email. Where it is unclear if your role falls within the key worker category, we may ask for proof.

Following the advice by the Lancashire Director of Public Health, our school is not opening to further year groups at this time. Our governing body will await the update on advice due out next Monday (15<sup>th</sup> June). When the advice indicates that it is safe to do so, we will then open to Year 6 for two weeks only. This will allow them to have important transition sessions as well as bring closure to their primary school learning. Therefore, these children may be returning (if next Monday's advice supports it) on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June for a two week block.

If there is still time following the Year 6 block, then we plan to open to Year 1 and/or Reception for the final two weeks of term. Missing schooling when younger has the greatest impact on education. Spending some time in school will help these children prepare for a smoother transition in September.



Whilst we would all like to see all children back at school before the end of term, I want to be honest and inform you as soon as possible about the reality of the rest of this term. You will have heard that the government now recognises that having all children back in school is not feasible. This is largely due to the impossibility of balancing social distancing expectations and staffing and space requirements with the number of children this would involve. Looking at our current procedures and the length of time left this term, I am sorry to say but children currently in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 will not be back in school until September at the earliest.

School will be closed to all children, including key worker and vulnerable children, over the Summer holiday period.

I realise that this information will lead to a mix of feelings for both adults and children. Our decisions will continue to be based on government guidance and the latest local medical advice. These decisions have been made for the sake of the whole community, children, staff and families, and we hope that by knowing at this stage it can allow you to better prepare yourselves and children for the weeks ahead.

Thank you once again for the ongoing understanding and support you are giving to the school and if you need to get in touch about anything school related, please do.

*Mel MacKinnon*

**HEADTEACHER**

