

Dear Parents/carers

First of all I'd like to thank everyone for supporting us as we took the unprecedented step of closing the school on Friday. The kind words (and cakes) were really appreciated. The children were an absolute credit to you all, behaving so sensibly. In what proved to be quite a stressful week for everyone; the only thing that reduced the staff to tears was the children's incredible singing. It's tough for us but it's even tougher for them in so many ways.

### **Home Learning and Communications**

We are not going anywhere. We will do our best to keep in touch, with advice on home learning, contact details for two way communication, more packs of work etc. but we ask that wherever possible you base the next two weeks (before the Easter holidays) on the packs we have already sent out. Any additional learning that we post will be found on the school website, under the section:

Our Learning

Home Learning

Child's Year Group

As a school we are working hard to meet the needs of everyone: the children being educated at home, the children being educated in the building and the staff teams who are needed to make all of this happen. Please understand that if we do not answer a query immediately it is only because we are working on key school priorities.

### **Arrangements for Key Workers and Children in Category 1 and 2** **Monday 23rd March**

Before providing logistical information, I would like to take this opportunity to share the most recent message from Gavin Williamson (Secretary of State for Education) for the parents classed as key workers:

***You should only send your child to school on Monday if you have to because your work is critical to our Covid-19 response. If you are able to keep your child at home, you should. #stay home save lives***

We are currently expecting up to 80 children (20% of the school population) on Monday.

If you are performing a vital role and there is no choice but to bring your child to school the arrangements will be as follows:

The core school hours will remain 8.50 to 3.05, although we will continue to operate our wet weather entry procedure (where doors open as soon as the grounds are opened at approximately 8.40, to prevent parents grouping outside classrooms).

EYFS children should enter via RMP

Years 1 and 2 children should enter via Mr Trower's classroom (Year 1 door)

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 should enter via the main hall doors.

The current plan is that handover, at the end of the day, will be through the same doors.

Where possible we will be using staff that the children are familiar with.

This Monday we will offer breakfast club, from 8am, and a member of staff will be available to care for children until 6pm, however this arrangement will be reviewed during the day, to take into account demand and staffing numbers. Parents will then be informed what hours we can maintain safe child-care, going forward.

We ask that children wear their school jumpers and polo shirt but they are welcome to wear their own trousers/leggings/skirts and suitable/ appropriate shoes.

Please can all children bring their PE kits (for use at some point in the week).

School lunches will be available as normal (although this could change). These will be charged at the usual price unless your child receives a Free School Meal, or is entitled to a Universal Free School Meal (Years R, 1 and 2). Please bring a packed lunch for your child if this is what they normally have.

We will continue to provide the best service that we can to all our families but we ask that everyone remembers that our staff are putting themselves at risk in order to do this. Continuing to support us with as much understanding as possible will be really helpful.

Going forward we have some great ideas to keep our children engaged but we would appreciate a little time to work these out fully and communicate them to everyone.

Finally a message to all of our children - keep being the best version of you that you can be and that means continuing with your learning, even if it feels a bit different. We can't wait to find out what new things you have learnt.

Yours sincerely

Julia Sherlock