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'One school, learning together'

12 May 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I do hope that you are all safe and well. It has been a long time since we were all able to meet at school under "normal" conditions and I sincerely hope that we can return to some form of normality before too long!

However, the last thing that any of us want is a recurrence of Covid 19 in a "second spike" so ensuring everyone's safety and welfare has to be our primary consideration. In addition to the 500 children who are on roll (420 in school and a further 80 on roll in Preschool) we employ around 90 staff - not all of whom are here all day everyday - nevertheless that is a lot of potential "traffic". Therefore, all plans we make will be thought through carefully to ensure everyone's safety.

In Sunday night's speech, Boris Johnson, announced that Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 would be returning to school from 1st June. We had anticipated Year 6 and had started to plan accordingly, but no one I know had anticipated the other 2 year groups - then, yesterday, Pre-Schools were added! We also learnt yesterday that there is the hope that all Primary school children will be back in school for the last 4 weeks of term. Lots to think about!!

Yesterday further detail was added and in particular the statement "The Government expects children to be able to return to early years settings, and for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to be back **in school in smaller sizes ...**". This will now need careful planning too!

We have plans in mind and have started discussing these in some detail with staff and I hope to be able to share those with you as soon as possible. In the meantime I have meetings with local Head Teachers and with a County wide Heads group, so that we can share good ideas and come to some form of common agreement.

I had hoped for absolute clarity so that we could all make quick, well informed decisions and offer you the certainty in your planning but in the meantime, I will be back in touch!!

As ever, if you have any questions then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Be kind, stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Richard Culham
Head Teacher

