



19 June, 2020

Dear Parents,

Wider re-opening of schools

In last week's newsletter we said we would be considering whether we had the staff and space to welcome back yr2-5 this term - in addition to children who have returned in N, R, Y1 and Y6, alongside children of key workers and those needing "additional support". Due to rules surrounding social distance and needing staff to operate the many newly created bubbles and the "Google Classroom," I'm afraid we are not able to welcome back any more pupils at the moment.

"Live events"

In the meantime, we are very conscious of the need to provide more support for children's wellbeing and learning who remain at home. We are therefore planning to hold some "live events," via Google Classroom, in which children will be able to see and hear each other and a member of school staff. We will be trialling this with **Y5** next week and **Y2-4** the week beginning 29 June, initially hosting a couple of 2x20 minute sessions at the beginning and end of each week. The sessions will be focussed on 'connection' and wellbeing, moving to more formal teaching as the days and weeks progress.

The sessions will be organised round year groups rather than classes and will be led by a member of staff from your child's year group, who may not be your child's teacher, as s/he might be occupied teaching in school. We are currently refining our organisation of these events and will send you more details next week. Children of key workers who are in school will be able to access the sessions from their key worker bubble. Year 5 pupils will receive details today through the Google Classroom streaming page.

We are also pleased to be organising fortnightly virtual achievement assemblies for each class in Years 1-6. Details will be given in the streaming page of Google Classroom.

Google Classroom

Google Classroom will continue as now and we hope you are finding it helpful. If there is an issue with the volume of work set, please may we remind you to prioritise the reading, writing and maths activities and not be so concerned with the rest. Thank you to everyone who has made suggestions for improvement, which we are working to address.

Reception

We are very pleased with how quickly our reception children have taken to the new ways of working and invite all children to stay for the **whole day** from the week beginning 29 June. This will include staying for lunch and having more socially distanced play activities in the afternoon. Children will leave at 2.30pm each day and noon on Friday.

Transitions

We continue to explore how we might provide the best "closure" to the academic year as we can, in addition to preparing and looking forward to the new year. More details will follow in the coming weeks.

September

As we said last week, we hope **all** children will be back with us as soon as is safely possible. We are eagerly waiting for direction from government and will let you know as soon as we are informed. Thank you again for all your support and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Best wishes,

Paul Barraclough
Executive Headteacher

Gulev Karayel
Head of School