

25th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well, and that it is not too hot for you. Week 14 is ending and we have more pupils back this week. We are evaluating our COVID-19 guidance/manual regularly as issues come to light. Please can I remind Parents that it is not like 'normal' school; not their usual classrooms, staff or friendship groups – they are in 'bubbles' and have to remain in that 'bubble'. Pupils should not be bringing items from home except lunchbox (wipeable container), meds, spare clothes etc, staff will not be writing home school diaries as we cannot pass items back and forwards. If you don't hear from us, assume a great day.

Normally we would be saying good bye to our Year 11, 12, 13 & 14 leavers tomorrow, however class teachers will keep in touch until the end of term. We wish all our leavers the very best for the future and will invite them back when it is safe to do so for a leaver's assembly and prom.

You will be receiving an end of year report for 2019/20 but as you can imagine they are slightly reduced and the government has said we do not report on attendance or attainment levels. I have been reading and commenting on all the reports and they really are lovely; the teachers have done a great job. They will be with you on Monday 13th July.

It was good news to hear that the Free School Meal Voucher Scheme will continue throughout the summer holidays. Please make sure you are using the vouchers and understand how to get them before the 17th July.

We are still waiting for permission to run our holiday club but I am extremely hopeful it will happen and continue to battle behind the scenes. If we are given permission we are also extending it from 4 weeks to 6 weeks for this year only, to support families further. I am, however, concerned that some of my staff have not had a break since February and I need them back and fully fit in September, but they are so committed to the families of WFS.

August 1st sees shielding paused, and the guidance states that clinically vulnerable children will be able to return to school in September.

The Prime Minister announced that all children would be back in school in September, however we are still awaiting the official guidance on how this will happen with our current restrictions. Teachers have let me know how we can transition back in September safely and which children will need individual risk assessments; pupils who mouth objects, spit, need personal care, where Team Teach is required etc. We will be operating 'normal' school hours in September, but staff will leave the premises early at 4pm to ensure a good clean can take place every night. We will have to do some form of transition in order to train pupils to use

the sanitiser, one-way system and how to enter and exit the school. We are hopeful that this should not take too long in September.

We have been promised guidance by 3rd July, so hopefully I can give you exactly what is happening at WFS in September, by 10th July. Your constant support and understanding have helped us all at this difficult time.

Track and Trace measures are in place, but until the end of term I would ask if your child is coming to school and a member of the household they live with is contacted by the Track and Trace Team, that you keep them at home until the test results are received back – the household member needs to self-isolate. This is contrary to the published guidance where they say it is safe for children to come to school but for the last 3 weeks of term I don't want to take any chances. I thank you for your understanding with this.

In September, we would like every pupil who has been at the school 2019/20 to paint a stone, so we can set them into a permanent reminder of what has happened. If you can find a couple of large stones to bring to school in September that would be great – if you are a leaver and would like to paint a stone and drop it into school that would be wonderful – we will varnish it for you if you can't. You will have to buzz the school gate and leave it in the box by the gate.

Please remember if you need anything or we can help in any way to let your class teams know and we will try and support.

We continue to work to support families and get them back to school as and when it is safe to do so.

With Kind Regards,

Rebecca Garratt
Headteacher