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Parent/Carer Update 19.6.2020

To all Parents/Carers,

Hope you are all ok. At first when it started to rain I was grateful but now, after day three of torrential downpours, the sun and warm weather can come back asap! Next week looks more favourable which is good.

Quite a bit to get through with this update...

As we know, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5 will not be back in school till September. However, and we are very aware of this, with each day that passes, some children and families are becoming more disconnected from school. With this in mind, we have come up with a few ideas to help with this (some of which were spoken about in last week's update):

1. Last week I mentioned that we were looking into Remote Learning and how we could facilitate some kind of online Class 'Catch Up'. We have moved at quite a pace with this and we are likely to use [Microsoft Teams](#). Staff are scheduled to receive training very soon and our IT Support Technician is already working hard to get all parents/carers set up. The first stage is for us, as a school domain, to issue you with an email address and a password. Once you have been given this I am hoping it will be quite straightforward to join a meeting and see your teacher/classmates! As I am sure you can appreciate though, we will also be looking into relevant safeguarding protocols too and this needs to be established before anything else...so I will keep you posted.
2. Teaching staff have been asked to record themselves reading a story for their class. Once completed, this will create a virtual school library which can be accessed on the website (using Vimeo like we did with the school video). I will select a few books and record them too – one for each key stage. Hopefully these will be available by the end of next week.
3. If agreed by the Governors and the Local Authority, I am going to invite all year groups that are not currently in school to a class picnic + socially distanced games event on the field before the end of this term. They obviously won't be coming in at the same time and it will only be held outside – with our site manager currently looking into marquees if it pours it down! **We would ask children to bring a packed lunch as well.**

An example schedule could be: Monday 10am – 12pm Y2 (Miss Gamble's class) will come in and be split into three groups of ten. Monday 1pm – 3pm Y2 (Mrs Smith's class) will come in and do the same. Y3 would be Tuesday, Y4 on Thursday and Y5 on Friday. Nothing is confirmed yet but I am hoping we can make it happen and I am hoping for warm sunny days too!

Summer Catch up

There are currently no further details for schools but here is the latest regarding the Government's 'Big Summer Catch Up'.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-53100881>

Safeguarding Addendum

A new safeguarding addendum which has been written specifically for Covid-19 has been completed. It is on the [website](#) so please make sure you have read it. Thank you.

Vulnerable Child/Key Worker group

Following conversations with staff in the Vulnerable Children/Key Worker bubbles it has been decided that all children who attend will now wear school uniform. This should hopefully help them, and the staff, to feel more connected with school. It has also been decided that some home learning, and a more structured approach to the daily activities, will take place. The staff in these bubbles feel this will make a big difference and I agree.

Free School Meals

Great news, Free School Meal Vouchers will now be issued over the Summer Holidays following the Government's U-Turn and a campaign led by Marcus Rashford of Manchester United. When we have more details we will be in touch – I am assuming it will be similar to how it worked over Easter.

Public transport

Lastly, masks are now compulsory on public transport so if you or your child come to school on public transport please make sure you are wearing one.

That's all for now. Have a lovely weekend and take care,

Mr I. Johnson