



Monday 15th March

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been such a pleasure having all the children back in school together and seeing them enjoying their time with their friends and teachers. They have adjusted very well to the school routines and expectations –although some of them are looking quite tired. The pace is different in school to that at home and we understand that they will be adjusting to that. I hope the children have been sharing with you some of the wellbeing activities they have been enjoying over the last week. Alongside these, children are continuing with their English and Maths lessons and where possible, the wellbeing focused lessons have linked with their topic for this term.

We have also begun our assessments of the children's reading, phonics, writing and maths understanding following this 2nd period of restricted opening. Assessment of learning is an ongoing process which staff complete on a continuous basis. This may be through conversations, hearing children read, marking and feedback, quizzes, small group sessions etc. More formal assessments will also be used to inform where there may be gaps in learning which staff can then address. This may be through whole class teaching or small group/individual catch up sessions. Understandably, some of you may be concerned about lost time/lost learning opportunities having had 2 periods of school closure in the last year. Assessments will be used to identify any gaps in knowledge /understanding and we will be continuing our catch up programme in school which we had in place in the autumn term.

Spring Term Governors' report

In the same week we saw the return to school, we also held our first governing body meeting of 2021 remotely via zoom on the morning of Tuesday 9th March.

Much of the discussion centred around the support and wellbeing for both the pupils and staff on this long awaited return to school. In addition to this, we were presented with a comprehensive headteacher's report provided by Mrs Halliday. There were also a number of policies, provided prior to the meeting, that were reviewed, and all fully approved, ensuring the controls and policies, ranging from Security to GDPR, are in place to keep our school safe and relevant. Several other agenda items were covered including equality objectives, risk management and safeguarding and review of the 2020/21 non pupil dates. There was also a very warm welcome to our recently appointed local governor Paul Lewis, who attended his first meeting.

During the online meeting it was a true joy to overhear the children laughing and playing in the playground as we slowly transition out of lockdown.

Finally, just a reminder that you can contact the governors through the school office if you would like to speak to us about any feedback, queries or concerns you may have.

Scott Charles –Carberry
Vice Chair

Parent Consultation Meetings

With the many changes to the school timetable and routines this year, we have adapted our usual arrangements for parent consultation meetings.



We usually offer a consultation meeting in the autumn term (which we were able to do remotely) and another one at the end of the spring term, with a lengthy and detailed written report at the end of the summer term.

Having reviewed arrangements for this year and with the very recent return to school for the majority of pupils, we will be offering a parents consultation meeting in May just before half term. (This may still need to be done remotely). We have moved this from next week when it would have been timetabled. The children will have fully settled back in by then and will have had a chance to re-embed any learning lost during lockdown. The teachers will have had the opportunity to gain an accurate assessment of the progress and age related attainment levels of the children which they will share with you.

However, if you have concerns about your child's wellbeing and would like a consultation over the phone with the class teacher over the next couple of weeks, please email them or call the school, and they will be in touch with you to arrange a mutual time. (Please remember, you can also request a meeting at any time and we are always happy to discuss how your child is doing with you).

For Reception pupils, Mrs Lewis and Miss Imrie will be offering a zoom call as it's tricky to have a phone conversation with the 2 staff at once. We will also be sending out a succinct written report towards the end of the year with age related attainment and progress information.

Red nose day/Comic relief

A flyer was sent home last week with information about fundraising for comic relief. We are looking forward to seeing those funky clothes/hair on Friday to brighten everyone's day.

Kind regards

Jackie Halliday
Headteacher