



# *Whitley & Eggborough Community Primary School*



*Caring, Helping and Sharing*

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I wanted to get in touch firstly, to say thank you for your ongoing support, during what has been a very difficult time, and secondly to further update you to the changes that have been made in school.

We remain responsive to the constant changes to the government guidance and are now awaiting any further announcements on Thursday.

Much has been said about the need for children to return to school for some resemblance of normality in their education and all at WECPS are keen for this to happen as soon as we are able and as soon it remains safe.

We complied fully with the reopening of the school to the wider year groups as well as continuing to provide priority provision as required for the Key Worker and Vulnerable children.

As the month has gone on, we have had more and more children returning to school in all of the aforementioned groups and this has meant unfortunate but unavoidable changes to the provision for the “eligible” year groups.

Due to the capacity of the classrooms and the need to ensure continuous provision for all the classes, we have (whilst maintaining bubbles) needed to bring more of our teaching staff into school which has significantly reduced the facility of remote learning – more noticeably the Google Meets. These have reduced for each class but we hope to be able to continue with some over the last few weeks in each class. The remote learning through Google Classroom and on the website does continue and we hope that the decision to come off curriculum this week to try to reinvigorate the enthusiasm of the children has worked.

I am delighted that we have received several comments this week expressing this very point with children enjoying the variety and creative opportunities to learn in a more practical way that will embed in their long-term memory for future years.

***“There has never been a day that the children have been bored with the work given to them, been left with no ideas and we have always felt supported by school. The work provided this week in particular was lovely - both children were completely different yesterday and full of enthusiasm as they had a different focus and spent the day obsessing over angles and shadows and perspective for their photo.”***



Headteacher – Miss S Langridge  
Chair of Governors – Miss E Ridley  
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*“X’s fish artwork inspired by Andy Goldsworthy, she used cherries and plums which had fallen from our fruit trees to make the colourful tail, pebbles found in our garden for the air bubbles along with the leaf for the body and a bird’s feather for the fin. She enjoyed hunting round the garden to find all of these objects”*

*“We had such a giggle making this today. We melted our unused crayons with a hair dryer. They kept flinging out all over which was making the boys laugh.”*

We are under no illusion that home learning for the children is frustrating for all and that it can, and never will, replace the opportunities that they will get from attending classes in school and as teaching professionals we cannot wait to be able to continue our work in our correct and proper environment.

Last week we opened another Key Worker Class and with effect from 29<sup>th</sup> June we will have increased the number of classes in our “eligible Year 6 group” as more requests have been made for children to return and in order to try and maintain fairness for all the children in terms of provision. However, I am very much aware that this has caused difficulty for some families where the offer for their child has been reduced for the final three weeks. We again thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to do our best to offer a fair provision for all eligible groups.

As a school we are trying to consider the well being of all the children, but are very aware that individual families will be very much concerned with their child in particular.

As I mentioned before, we are doing our best to adapt to the new guidelines published daily and support families as much as we possibly can. Following announcements this Thursday, things may continue to change for us at school.

As we head towards the Summer break, I wanted to confirm that having been open from the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020 we are due to close as normal on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020. As ever, during the holidays we will be undergoing essential maintenance works throughout the break which will enable us to be ready to open on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020. We have made the decision not to have our usual training day for staff on this day and will reschedule this for another time in the year once we have discussed this with Governors. I realise that some families may have booked time away and if this is the case then due to the unforeseen change any absence on this day will be authorised.

On our return to school in September, we have a comprehensive plan of how we will assess and target all the children to ensure that the emotional well-being of the children is supported and that gaps in learning are filled as well as continuing with the new year of learning for all.

We fully understand that times continue to be challenging and possibly upsetting for the children and we will continue to support your families to the very best of our abilities in any way that we can.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Langridge  
Headteacher



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Chair of Governors – Miss E Ridley  
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