

VANE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL
FRIDAY 10TH JULY 2020
WWW.VANEROADPRIMARY.CO.UK

Message from Mr. Pavay

Thank you for everyone's patience with us this week as we sent out all the reports yesterday. Learning to work in a way that does not involve contact is very challenging for us all and to be honest it's not the way I like to work. That being said, I do hope that you all managed to get the report, put in the password correctly and finally enjoy reading your child's end of year report. We have already had lots of comments back from many of you but if you haven't managed to do so, please will you take the time to send, at least an acknowledgement that the report has been received, so that we can rest happy that the report arrived.

We are busy putting the plans together for opening to all pupils in September. I am planning to enable the school to open in as 'normal' a way as possible with the normal times and the normal routines. Clearly, there will be a lot of things that will need to adjust but I want to keep any disruption to the normal school routines to a minimum. I will share the plan with your next Thursday once it has been through the usual checks by Governors, Local Authority and staff. It is really exciting to think that we will all be back together very soon!

Something that we have really noticed about the children who have returned to school for a few weeks, is how unfit many of them (especially me!) have become. In reality this is not really surprising. Prior to Lockdown the children, regardless of how naturally active they are, move around a lot when coming to and from school and playing during the school day; not to mention the PE lessons and the daily activities they get involved in. I was also interested when I looked at the home learning engagement and despite the teachers putting on PE activities, many children did not engage in them. Whilst many may think I am making a lot out of nothing, I do worry that this is going to be an issue in the future if we don't start to address it. From September, I will make sure that they children have increased opportunity to get involved in fitness activities when they are at school but I would like the children to start now. With the relaxing of many Lockdown restrictions I would hope that more people feel confident to go outside to exercise. It doesn't have to be a run, bike ride or any particular sport – imagine the games children play on the playground, they mostly chase each other which is a fabulous form of exercise! There are also lots of things that can be done in the house if you don't want to let them out. I am a firm believer that if our children have healthy bodies, they learn much more easily and so if we are going to get children learning really quickly in September, if they return with healthy bodies, this will help their minds!

The Lockdown period has been very stressful and challenging for all of us and as we come to the time when school life starts to return to normal, I would like to gather the views of parents/carers on how the school supported you and your family over the past few months. Please could you [click here](#) to complete the survey. Your views are really important to us.

As we look forward to September, please can I take the opportunity to give you the early confirmation that children must come to school in full school uniform which includes black polishable school shoes. The children should also not have earrings in or any other jewelry. Recent guidance has also led me to include Smartwatches as items that should not come into school for Safeguarding reasons (simple step-trackers are ok). The children will also need a pair of wellies to leave in school to use during our new playtimes.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in September but especially our New Starter children. We have added some important information regarding transition arrangements on our School Website – [CLICK HERE](#).

We are also having a leaving event of our Year 6 children next Thursday afternoon. Details have been sent out but if you have missed them, please get in touch. It is very strange to be saying goodbye to the first Year 6 that I have seen all the way through school. They started at the school with me in September 2013 and I couldn't be more proud of them.

If you need to contact school, please use the email address: vaneroadparents@durhamlearning.net