

Friendship

2019-2020 Number 29 | Friday 15th May 2020

With Jesus as our guide,
we will inspire a passion
for learning, high
aspirations and respect
all.



Oh my goodness what a crazy week this has been! Having obviously watched the Prime Minister's address to the nation on Sunday evening I learnt that we would be required to open schools from the 1st June to allow our youngest EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils to return. We received no guidance or information until late on Monday and then this has continually been updated throughout the week, with a whole new document released last night at 7.00 pm.

I wrote to all of you on Wednesday with my honest view and I have to still stand by my opinion that it is very difficult for us to maintain in social distancing in school and all of you recognise that children do not and cannot manage to keep away from each other. We all want the children back at school and I cannot wait for the time when this is all over and we are back to normal. Until that time we have to try to make sense of all of this and do what is best for the children, staff and families of All Saints.

Thank you to all of you who have contacted us with your views and your wishes with regards to the opening of the school further, to accept more children than the Key worker/Vulnerable group. I fully understand the very difficult position you all face being with children who desperately want to get back to normal. The lovely emails with such positivity that you have sent, really do make a difference to all of us, especially as we try to work through this.

We have started to create a plan for the opening to more children, but this is constantly having to be reviewed and changed as the government brings more and more information out to us. The only thing I can tell you all is that a staggered arrival time will be in place, with a year group arriving at 10 minute intervals with the first group at 8.40 am and the last group at 9.10 am, therefore meaning that it will take 30 minutes to get the required children into the building and the same will happen at the end of the day with the first group leaving at 2.45 and the last group at 3.15 pm. Lunch time also has to be staggered therefore meaning that the lunch period, as all of the groups have to be kept separate, it will take nearly 2 hours to rotate the children through.

I will contact all of you again when we have the formal arrangements in place and obviously if any of you have a change on circumstances and can no longer work from home for example, please speak to us as soon as possible so we can work to accommodate your child/children. Please don't think that if you have said no at the moment to sending your child into school that you can't then in three weeks' time send them. We ask for a weeks' notice to be able to ensure that we can manage our numbers as safely as possible.

On a different note by now you should all have received a phone call from your child's class teacher and many of you joined story times, quizzes etc. which the teachers have been doing on line. It is truly fantastic the work you have been completing and I love seeing your photos. So keep going we know how tough it can be but we will keep going with the home learning and the packs that we are providing for some pupils.

Thank you so much for the fantastic support that you have shown me and my staff we really do appreciate it. Another thank you for the offers of hand sanitiser and face masks which has helped enormously and reminded me of the brilliant All Saints family that I am part of. Once I have more information I will of course inform you as soon as possible, take care and stay safe.