**PLEASE make sure you read and understand this letter. If you need a translation or a verbal explanation please get in touch soon.**

1st July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again, a huge ‘thank you’ and ‘well done’ for your sterling efforts to keep in touch with school, continuing to meet your child’s educational and therapy needs and for the amazing success stories you are sharing with us of the progress your children continue to make at home. We are very proud of your successes and are with you in spirit during this crisis.

Just an update on where we find ourselves at this point in time and some early thoughts about September. We now have a regular 50 children successfully accessing school and our new guidelines are working well and the staff and children are enjoying spending some quality time together.

We will be organising a Zoom farewell for our Year 6 leavers, more details to follow, and we are planning some special end of year treats for the children in school which we hope you will also be able to join in remotely.

We are going to send you a simple questionnaire soon asking again for your views for September to aid our planning. We aim to re-open as normal, five days a week back to the usual school hours with some additional measures in place. We will be working with our Health colleagues on individual risk assessments for those children with medical needs before agreeing re-admission. We will be thinking about staggering transport arrival and departure times to avoid major congestion at these busy times in school. We will continue to work in our new class bubbles with specific timetables in place to allow the groups to play separately, have lunch separately but use the new technologies to celebrate assemblies and shared times together via Zoom.

We need to know what concerns you may still have? We need to know if you are intending to send your child back in September? We need to know if you intend to transport them yourself? I can reassure you that despite what you may have heard or read in the media from our Education Minister, we will not be fining any parent who does not feel it is safe for their child to return to school yet. This is your right as a parent to determine the safety and wellbeing of your child and no Government has the right to interfere with your wishes.

I can say that we have taken all of the necessary steps to limit the chances of infection but as you know there are no guarantees.

We are also aware that this year we have a 7 week summer holiday which could not have come at a worse time given what you have already been through. The Local Authority are planning to make their Street Games summer clubs accessible to our families and are also promising to give you an emergency contact number for support. We will also leave our mobile numbers on the school phone system in case you need to get in touch. However, we have all been advised to give the teaching staff a break as you are aware they have been working through the holidays since March and are in need of some down time, rest and recuperation. So the Dojo and phone calls will stop from the end of term, but the Teachers will try and set you up with resources, ideas and links for the summer break.

We are also thinking about making the Rebound Therapy Centre available for parents to use over the summer break and again will be asking if any of you would like to take up this offer?

Other updates.

· You will be introduced to your child’s new Class Teacher and children in class soon remotely, and you will also receive your child’s end of year report.

· You can order your child’s uniform following the link on our website.

· You will receive separate information soon for those of you who receive Free School Meal vouchers for the summer.

· Physiotherapy Clinics are now taking place in school again.

· There is now a Local Authority Risk Assessment for School Transport which you could ask for from the Local Authority.

I will write again before the end of term on the 17th July with more information but in the meantime please feel free to contact school any day from 8:30am-4:30pm.

A reminder to all of those currently attending school, please, please follow these guidelines to help keep all of our staff and children safe.

Please follow the joining instructions for your child returning to school.

· Your child is eligible to attend school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If you do not want all three days please let us know so we can make this day available to other children. School and resources will be deep cleaned in-between your child’s attendance.

· The school day will return to 9:00am – 3:15pm.

· If your child is travelling to school on Local Authority Transport, make sure you let us know of any changes and that you inform Local Authority Transport if your child is unwell or not attending school for any reason.

· If you are bringing your own child please wait in your car until a member of staff collects your child and takes their temperature. No Parent/Carer is allowed into school without consent.

· Please send in a bag of spare clothes that will remain in school.

· If your child has medications please pass them over to staff on drop off or via the escorts.

· Your child must come in clean clothes each day. Do not wear the school uniform unless you guarantee to wash it in-between use. Please send in spare clothes.

· Please ensure your child has clean short fingernails.

· Your child must shower, bathe and change into clean clothes when they return home from school.

· Please ensure your child brings in their own sun protection in a clear bag and a sun hat.

· Make sure your child has washed their hands before coming to school. If you are able to, please take their temperature before journeying to school.

· Obviously do not send your child to school if they are displaying any of the Covid 19 symptoms or if anyone in your household is displaying symptoms.

· Do not send them in with a runny nose, cough or cold, or if you have felt the need to administer paracetamol/ibuprofen or Calpol that morning.

· Do not send in any toys, in particular cuddly, cloth toys, just their medication and/or packed lunch. Please feel free to send in bottles of water or juice if you prefer your child to drink from your own containers, but we will have drinks and a school lunch available to all.

· If you want a cooked school lunch just let us know and pay the usual lunch fees (£2 per day). If you are entitled to free school meals and your child is in school you will not receive a voucher. We can provide a packed lunch for the other two days on request.

· Please let us know the minute your child or anyone they come into contact with has tested positive for the virus or is displaying any of the symptoms. We must be clear that this applies to any single one of the symptoms.

· If anyone in your child’s bubble contracts the virus, all of those children and staff will be asked to stay at home for fourteen days and self-isolate, or until that person has been tested negative.

· Feel free to phone school for daily updates on your child or ask if you want a note sending home with your child. We will do our best to keep you informed.

Yours sincerely

Chris Rollings

Head Teacher