



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all keeping well? It has been wonderful to see more children in school since Tuesday 2nd June.

Thank you for the feedback and comments by many of you in person, by e-mail or by phone. These have been shared by staff and very much appreciated.

Thank you for the way so many parents and carers have co-operated with us to fit in with the Government advice around staggered starts and finish. This is about trying to keep everyone as safe as we can.

In school, we have very much enjoyed our new bubbles of learning, and although different, we have all adapted successfully. Hopefully you will have seen our tweet showing Reception children in school, which was then commented on and retweeted by Gavin Williamson the Education Secretary!

Details of how to book a test for anyone with symptoms can be found at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Dear children and school families,

We hope that you are keeping safe and well in these challenging times.

Since lockdown started, normal governance was suspended by the Community Academies Trust (CAT) and they took on governance of CAT schools, following Government guidance. However, Governors have still been in regular contact with school to ensure that all staff and pupils are keeping safe and well and doing all that they reasonably can in these most unusual times.

I know that you will join me in a heartfelt thank you to all staff as they do their very best to provide learning and care for all our children in a frustrating and challenging situation, as well as digest and apply all of the government recommendations as and when they come.

The regular and comprehensive updates and learning tasks from school and all of the videos, emails and messages from the entire school community just shows how much positivity and teamwork can thrive, despite all of the limitations on a normal life. Thank you to everyone for sharing your learning and for your messages of support to the staff and each other. We are all learning to maintain relationships in a different way but the fact remains that you always feel the benefit from any effort that you put in.

As we approach the start of further opening, an enormous amount of preparation has been going on behind the scenes. Staff would like nothing better than to be in the classroom and back to normal, but they have to work within the limits of these unprecedented times.

Please show them your support as we enter this new chapter.

Hoping that you are finding that the above quote is proving true for you.

Keep safe, happy, well and as positive as you can - and thank you to everyone at Chadsmead for doing their best and being there for the children and school families.

Warmest good wishes

Iona Chisholm
Chair of LGB

Early Years

It has been so lovely to welcome our Reception and Nursery children back into school this week! We have created a Classroom Charter with rules to help us stay safe in our bubble. We have been so impressed with how well the children have followed the rules and adapted to the changes in the classroom. They have been stars! The children have taken part in lots of circle time activities to discuss their feelings and how to look out for each other if they are worried. We have also learned a new song to help us when we are washing our hands.

Years 1

This week we have been settling into our new environment and even making new friends!

We have learned our new routines including:

- social distancing
- hand washing and
- using the anti-bac gel
- keeping our own area and equipment together and in one place
- lots of smiling to be kind.

We have talked a lot about our feelings each day and discussed why we might be feeling worried or sad or unhappy. We have shared a story about a mischievous pixie and completed some writing activities. We have been reading every day.

In our maths lessons we have looked at measures including weight and capacity and made comparisons. It has been an unusual week with us learning new rules and working a different routine but all in all it has been a good one!

Year 6

We have had an amazing first week back. We have been extremely proud of how the children have adapted to the new rules, particularly their awareness of keeping themselves and others safe. Their resilience has been awe inspiring and we could not be more proud of them.

We have all settled in well and have been learning about the Victorians as part of our new 'Revolution' theme. We're very excited about this theme and are looking forward to learning more in the coming weeks about this fascinating period of our history.

During writing, we have been composing poetry using alliteration and abstract nouns. In maths, our focus is on angles in different triangles and quadrilaterals.

Our new class text is 'Street Child' by Berlin Doherty and we are already gripped! This text is currently available on Kindle for £2.99. Bargain!

Thank you for all the work you have sent in. It has been lovely to share your learning with the children and to find out about all the wonderful things you have been learning at home - look out for our work too!

It has been a fantastic week. Stay safe. We miss you all lots and look forward to seeing you again soon.

Key Worker Children

It has been wonderful becoming a new mini community – we have even created our own greeting – socially distanced of course. We have created our own social charter and discussed our new school rules which will help us to keep safe. The children have spent time discussing their thoughts and feelings, how life has changed and the strategies they have developed to cope with these changes. The children have been amazing at understanding and adapting to the changes within school. We are immensely proud at the resilience and positive attitude shown by all our children.

Keeping in Touch

Since school has re-opened to YN, YR, Y1 and Y6 as well as still receiving pupils from Key Workers we have endeavoured to keep in contact with all families of children who are not attending and will continue to do so. We understand the worry at this time and the anxiety that a prolonged time at home, away from friends and familiar routines can cause. It has been great to hear the voices of children and their parents/carers many of which we haven't seen for nearly 3 months!

All staff have said as one, that after making their calls they themselves have felt a little more uplifted and positive as we hope you and yours have too. We have loved hearing about the work you have managed to do as well as the other things like going on walks in the countryside and making dresses! There have been lots of positives which have come out of this hard time although we have also recognised the difficulties many families face with home schooling and being 'cooped up' for such a long time.

We have tried to offer our support and suggestions to help each family where needed and it has also been nice to have things sent to us via office email. A common theme to home learning suggestions continues to be – plan a daily timetable and attempt short targets that don't overwhelm!

We look forward to keeping in contact and hope you do too! Speak soon and stay safe!