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Coronavirus Update #13

29th May 2020

Dear Parents,

Following yesterday's announcement by the Prime Minister, I can confirm that we will be opening on Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd June for children in Ash, Pine and Hazel. Vulnerable children and children of key workers will be able to attend all week as normal. On Thursday 4th and Friday 5th June we will be opening for Elm, Beech and Hawthorn. For more details, please see my letter, 'Plans for Partial Reopening on 1st June'.

Preparing for this opening in such a short period of time with so many variables has required a significant amount of effort by a lot of people from all departments in the school: the office staff, sites staff, kitchen staff, cleaners, teachers, teaching assistants and governors. Special thanks to Mrs Pike, Mrs Colmer, Mrs Duff, Mr Holland, Mrs Scaife and Mrs McGowan for their contributions. I'm really grateful for everybody's efforts and contributions though; large and small. Without all this support it would have been so much harder to get this right and be ready in time.

Our risk assessment has been scrutinised by the Torbay Health and Safety team, and found to be robust and comprehensive. It has also been checked carefully by governors who also attended school today to check that remedial actions have been completed and to see for themselves how the school looks. Although it is impossible to remove any risk completely, I believe we have done the very best we can to make the school safe and feel safe for children and staff. If you would like to ask any questions about this, you are very welcome to phone school. Either Mrs Pike or myself are in every day and we are very happy to chat to you and talk anything through.

It now appears likely that as time progresses, and so long as we don't see a renewed spike in cases, then we will gradually see more and more children return to school over the coming weeks. How this will look, only time will tell. In the meantime we will continue with the arrangements already shared with you until further notice.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 and you've currently notified us they won't be attending, if / when you change your mind, please do let us know at the very earliest opportunity.

Please remember that if you are a critical worker and your child can't be looked after at home, they must be booked in 2 days beforehand unless they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 on a day their class is in.

Next week, teachers will be focussing on helping children manage their emotions and feelings as they transition back after so long away and with so many changes to the world around us. Our pastoral team will also be on hand to help support any children who find the transition back a particular challenge. Mrs Essam, our specialist Nurture teacher thought you might find the following article useful to use at home: <https://raisedgood.com/9-simple-ways-to-help-children-handle-their-feelings/>

With the hot weather, please remember to send your child in with a big drink, a hat and with sun cream ready applied. If you need a water bottle, we have some at school that can be purchased for £1 from the office. Please also send a healthy morning snack as our free fruit delivery is not yet up and running.

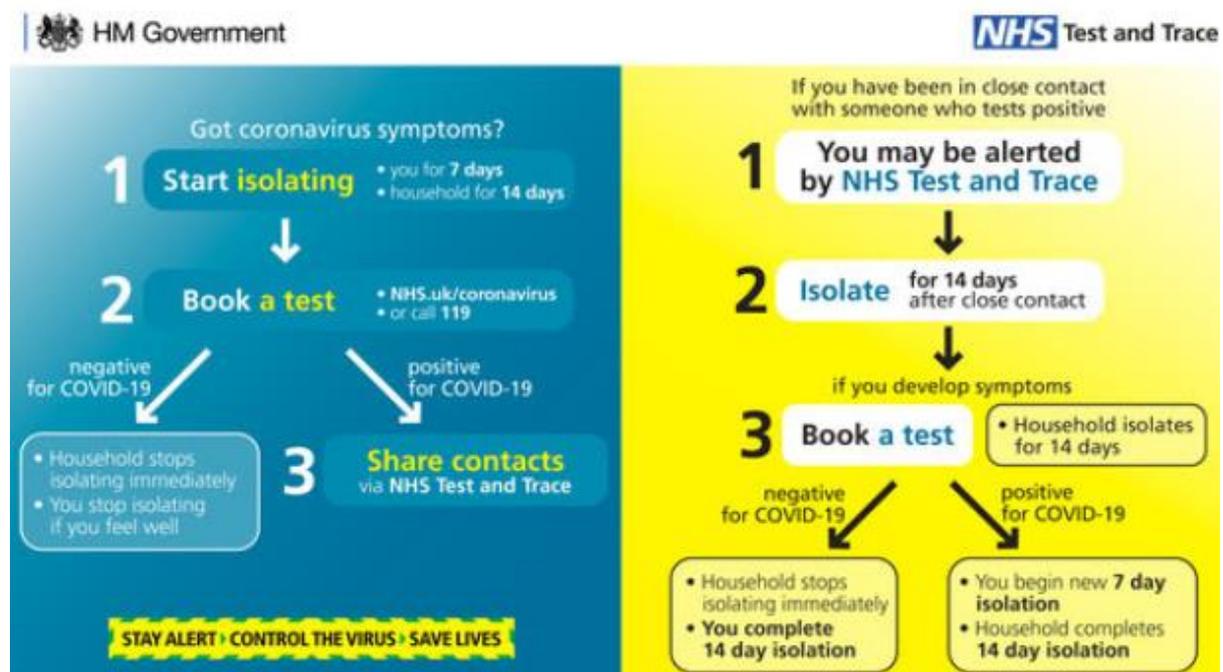
Please remember to book lunches through the School Gateway which can be done up to 8.00am each day.

Here's a reminder of some key information that I have already shared with you:

	Start of Day	End of Day	Entrance / Exit	Drop Off / Collection	Location	Play Time	Lunch Time
VP / CW	8.45-8.55am	3.05pm	front slope	front slope	Y5 classrooms (& Cherry if needed)	10.40-11.00 main playground & Arts	12.50-1.30 Eating in the hall then main playground & Arts
Year R	8.55-9.15am	2.45pm	car park	Reception classrooms	Reception classrooms	As needed in own area	11.50-12.45 Eating in the hall then in own area
Year 1	8.55-9.15am	2.45pm	front slope	Year 1 classrooms	Year 1 classrooms	10.15-10.35 top playground & Orchard	12.20-1.00 Eating in the hall then top playground & Orchard
Year 6	9.15-9.30am	2.55pm	front slope	Bottom of slope	Year 6 classrooms & Maple	11.00-11.20 Woodland Den playground & field	12.50-1.30 Eating in class then Woodland Den playground & field

For those children who are continuing to stay at home from whatever year group, home learning will continue. The only change you will notice is that work provided for those in Reception and Year 1 will be less and will be based on the learning done in school as these teachers now prioritise teaching in school; much of which will be based on personal, social, health and emotional learning to start with.

With the government's launch of *Test and Trace* yesterday I thought it would be useful to share the following diagrams with you which help show a simplified view that cuts through all the words we hear on the media.



Covid-19 – Stay Alert

The key message is to **stay alert** which means you must stay at home as much as possible, work from home if you can, limit contact with other people, keep at least 2 metres apart from others if you go out and wash your hands regularly.

The message about symptoms has changed slightly to include a loss of taste or smell as well as having a new and continuous cough or a high temperature. In this case stay at home for 7 days if you live alone, stay at home for 14 days if you live with others, including all household members. Only use NHS 111 if your symptoms get worse or are no better after isolation. Guidance on what to do while staying at home if you have suspected coronavirus can be found here by clicking this link to the [NHS website](#).

The most up to date guidance for parents can still be accessed via this link and it includes lots of questions and answers that you might find useful:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Department for Education helpline for parents - phone: 0800 046 8687,
Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk, opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday) and 10am to 4pm (Saturday and Sunday)

Updates on COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

For games and resources about good hygiene and bugs, try the e-bug website which is being run in conjunction with Public Health England. [Click here](#).

Very best wishes to you and your families,



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)

James Bennet (Chair of Governors)