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Executive Headteacher: Mrs RM West

Head of Schools : Mrs V Brown

### Term 6 – Week 1- 2019-2020

#### Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to get back into school and our Year 6's and key worker children have had a good first week back. Thank you for making this possible by respecting social distancing when dropping off or picking up your child/ren. We really appreciate your patience during this week as we have reviewed our systems.

We look forward to welcoming back to school our Reception and Year 1 children on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June. The Reception children will have a shorter session of 9:15-11:15a.m to familiarise themselves with being back in school.

Following updated guidelines on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, I have been in touch with the Local Authority. Whilst we are planning for the other year groups, not listed in the guidance, to return in the coming weeks **we are not allowed to confirm this until it is announced by government**. We have attached the list of key workers, as if you are currently working in any of these roles, your child is able to return to school even if they are not in Reception, Year 1 or 6.

We are quite disappointed that we can't confirm our return for children in Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 as we feel we have capacity. We will let you know as soon as we do, if we are able to confirm the dates sent out in our letter over half term or whether their return will be delayed to a later date. If you do currently work in any of the roles in the information attached and would like your child to return to school either now or at the time we had planned for their year group then please let the school office know. **(Please see attached list)**

#### THE 100 ACRE WOOD

We have our new topic 'Deep in 100 Acre Wood' which is being followed by all classes across our Federation. You will receive your child's topic web this week with their class learning objects related to this theme.



#### NATIONAL BIKE WEEK 6TH -14TH JUNE

The Bikeability Trust are sharing one of the general **Just for Fun** family resources to keep kids occupied during lockdown and have asked us to share it with you. It includes educational activities relating to cycle training as well as some fun puzzles and facts, see attached.

They also have a timetable of cycling activities for families to try next week and these can be found on the following website

<https://www.cyclinguk.org/bikeweek>

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### SHORT FILM TO SHARE

Reaching Families, are a West Sussex charity supporting families of children with SEND. They have produced a lovely 6 minute animation called Coronavirus and the new normal. The film is designed as a tool to help parents and teachers explain the lockdown and our current circumstances – including returning to school/work, stresses at home and expressing feelings. The film is suitable for sharing with all children. Please use the link below.

<http://www.reachingfamilies.org.uk/animations.html#covideo>

### THOUGHTS FROM YEAR 6

Rowan: School is very different but very fun.

Hamish: It is so much fun and I am so happy to be back at school. We have learnt to adapt the games we play at break and lunch.

Andrew: Being back at school is different but we still get to have loads of laughs.

Oliver: It is a different environment but the fact I get to see friends in person makes it almost as good as normal.

Ryan: I thought it was going to be really hard but we are having a lot of fun doing our work and playing splat at playtime.

Flynn: I think school is fun because we are learning to adapt to the new routines.

Ebony: At break I have enjoyed adapting games so we can play using social distancing.



We've all been having lots of fun this week!

Rachel West and Vicki Brown

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## Preparing Your Child For the First Day Back in School

*As schools begin to open to more children, parents and children may well be feeling anxious. Here's some ideas of how best to prepare.*

### Be Calm.

Your child will take their lead from you and be reassured if you are steady and matter of fact.



### Be Curious.

These are strange times and their imagination may run away with them. Listen, and try not to dismiss or minimise their fears but validate how they are feeling – “it’s completely fine to feel like that at the moment” or “I can really understand why you would feel like that”



### Be Positive.

Remind them of all the ways they have learnt to keep themselves safe: washing their hands regularly, sneezing and coughing into their elbow, not hugging others and staying in their own space.



### Be Thankful.

Help your child think of things they are looking forward to: being with their friends, seeing their teacher, favourite activities but be mindful some of these may not be available for them



### Be Supportive

Younger children particularly may struggle with separation anxiety and may become tearful, clingy or act out. Reassure them that you will miss them too and think of them through out the day. It might be helpful to draw a little heart on their wrist and one on yours too. You can call it the hug button and when they find they are missing you they can press the heart and know that you will be doing the same at home. Sometimes having a little object to remind them of you through the day helps but please check this out with your school first.



### Be Prepared.

Support your child to be aware of changes that may have happened to their classroom environment since they were there last and rehearse any new routines that school may have shared. Rehearse and practice your ‘goodbye’ routine and create a ‘hello’ greeting for the end of the day for them to look forward to.

