

ESPS update 16 6 2020

Good morning everyone

I hope you are well and thank you again for all your efforts over the last few months.

Reports - collection this week.

Your Annual Reports will be available for collection from school following the timetable below. PLEASE ONLY COME ON THE DAY ALLOCATED. If you have more than 1 child in school you may collect all reports on one of these days (which ever day suits you best). Please sanitise hands before entering school. Ring the buzzer in the entrance hall and wait outside. Please respect social distancing with other parents. I may have to get these on my own for each parent so please be patient!

Nursery, Year 1 & Year 2 - Wednesday 17th June (between 10am and 2pm)

Year 3 & Year 4 - Thursday 18th June (between 10am and 2pm)

Years 5, 6 & 7 - Friday 19th June (between 10am and 2pm)

Return of school reading books (please return when you collect reports this week)

Some pupils will have school reading books at home. They have cost the school a large amount of money and if we have to replace them, this is money that we can't spend on iPads and other learning materials for your children. **Please return any school reading books when you come to collect your reports this week.** It would be greatly appreciated. If you are unable to return now, we will speak with you in August/September.

School reopening in August/September

We are currently planning for reopening in August/September (dates to be decided). You may have heard on the news about Year 7 pupils returning on 17th August. I am waiting for confirmation of dates, so please do not assume that all information on the BBC has been officially decided by the Department of Education.

As we have said, you have done an excellent job at home and we are very grateful for any and all efforts!

Remember, when we reopen it is likely that we will have **half classes (bubbles)** in to start with. They will most likely be in 2 days each week on Monday & Tuesday or on Thursday & Friday, selected as best possible by alphabetical order. The first few days back in school will obviously be devoted to ensuring that your children are safe, settled, cared for and have opportunity to express their questions and concerns over school closing. On the other days, not in school, there will be online home learning provided on Seesaw **BUT DO NOT FEAR!! :) This will look very different!**

In school, we will be doing nearly all the maths and English learning activities each week to take the pressure off you and your children at home. This will also mean that we can best support all pupils as they catch up as fast as possible when school reopens. Home learning will most likely concentrate on spelling, reading and number facts as well as some general learning activities to do with other curricular areas such as the World Around Us and The Arts. There will not be the expectation of doing learning everyday at home and activities may be spread out over a number of days. **This is learning that you will be able to support your child with and it will be manageable for you.**

I intend to send more information out later this week when I am hopefully better informed by the Department of Education.

Survey

I am sending a survey by email to a number of parents this week by random selection. If you would please take 5 minutes to answer the questions about learning provision during lockdown and share any questions, concerns and ideas that you have about reopening, that would be appreciated.

All parents can of course contact school at any time with encouragement, views, questions and concerns about lockdown and or reopening.

Many parents have taken time to send through encouraging messages on Facebook, Seesaw, email and in phone calls to staff for all their support during school closure. Thank you for this, your staff are very grateful for all contact and encouragement, it often helps to keep them motivated.

Thank you for your patience, support and encouragement.

Stay well. Stay positive. Stay engaged.

John Armstrong, staff and Governors.