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Summer Newsletter No.1

27th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the summer term. Not a 'normal' term in any sense, but I do hope that you and your family are safe and remaining healthy. I am aware that many within our school community face new challenges, both financially and to their health. I do not underestimate the challenges we are all facing right now, but once again it has been heartening to see how our community has pulled together. On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you for your encouraging and supportive words. A short email or simple telephone conversation offering thanks to my staff for all their efforts, either in school, supporting those eligible children or preparing home learning means a great deal at this time.

I will continue to send fortnightly newsletters but will of course update you immediately if there are any significant updates from central government

Kind regards
Miss K Aldred

Home learning

By now you will have received the latest updates from your child's class teacher regarding home learning. You will receive these weekly via Parentmail and we hope you find them useful. The home learning projects will also remain on the school website along with useful links to websites and resources for those of you that wish to use them. These are updated regularly so please keep checking.

We really do appreciate this situation is hugely different for every family and ask that you do what is right for you and your child. Be that a more practical approach or a more 'little and often approach', there is no wrong way. Keeping to a routine and feeling safe, secure and happy are the most important things, for every child right now.

Online Safety

By the very nature of the situation we all find ourselves in, our children are spending more time online either completing home learning, communicating with friends and family or relax by playing games. The **Think You Know** website features some excellent resources to help you keep your child or children safe online during this situation:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/>

School Reopening

There has been much speculation in the media recently relating to when and how schools may fully re-open.

Of course, we all want to reopen but we are pleased that the government are confirming that the key priority for this decision is the safety of staff and children.

We are currently looking at modelling various scenarios so that we are ready when a decision is made.

We will of course keep you updated as and when that decision is made by government.

Staff Changes

It is with regret we were not able to say goodbye to Miss Petruzzello before the Easter holiday, due to the rapidly evolving national emergency we all found ourselves in. Miss Petruzzello was offered a role in a larger school, starting after Easter and felt the time was right to move on to further her career.

I know you will join me in thanking her for her service and wishing her well in her new role.

Mrs Barker has now taken full responsibility for teaching Cedar class.

Miss Petruzzello sends her best regards to all the children and wishes them every success for the future.

Transition

In these unusual times we are pleased to extend a warm welcome to all the new families due to join our Reception classes in September 2020.

We are also busy planning transition for our current children, including those children in Year 2 who will be changing school in September.

We still have quite some time before our normal transition activities would have commenced with the children but, we are already formulating plans should these activities not be possible.

We are already in contact with our Year 3 colleagues and I would like to assure you we will do everything possible to ensure it is as smooth as possible.

Finally, I politely request you do not contact the school requesting specific friendship groups for your child's future Year 3 class. As we do every year; the Year 2 team will make these decisions based on what is best for your child's academic as well as social well-being. We understand you have concerns, especially at this very unsettling time but, we know your children well and will always put their needs at the heart of any decisions we make.