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24<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well and staying safe. It has been lovely to welcome back some of our children and families over the last few weeks, but we do miss seeing everyone and the buzz around school that this creates. Teachers continue to send home learning each week, which we hope you find helpful. With the warmer weather it can be harder to motivate children to focus on their learning but, 'small and often' is our mantra in school and is a good tack to use at home as well. Please do keep sending in your pictures of home learning activities to [info@bagshot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@bagshot.surrey.sch.uk). Our 'in school' learners enjoy seeing their peers activities at home!

I apologise for the length of this update but I feel it is important to keep you informed, with accurate and timely information, whenever I am able. As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have a question or query.

### **September 2020**

Like you, I heard the announcement on Friday evening that it is the government's intention to welcome back all children to school in September 2020. The Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson, announced that guidance would be issued to schools in the next two weeks. I fully understand the need to share our plans with you for September in a timely and accurate manner. I will therefore, as soon as I receive further guidance, formulate a plan and I will write to you again. My intention is for that to be prior the end of term but will of course be dependent upon guidance being issued.

### **Annual Reports**

The government have asked schools to send annual reports to you as parents this year, as we normally would. I feel this is an important opportunity to celebrate the success your child had over the course of the year and to also highlight areas that my team believe the children will need to focus on, upon their return in September. Teachers wrote your child's annual report immediately as we went into lockdown, so they were as accurate as possible, at that point in time. Your child's report will be available for collection, along with their P.E. kits etc. from week beginning **6<sup>th</sup> July**. If your child is in school that week, they will be given the report to bring home. For all other parents please call the school office to arrange a time, between 09.30- 3.00 any day that week, to collect them.

### **Assessments**

As I am sure you will recall the government announced the suspension of the Early Years Profiles, Year 1 Phonics Screening Check and Key Stage One assessments, at the start of the lockdown in March. You will therefore not

receive any statutory assessment results for your child this year. We have been working closely with our Junior School colleagues to ensure accurate information has been shared about your children, ahead of their move to Year three and for our children returning to this school, in September teachers have already been working closely together to ensure a smooth transition and handover.

### **Transition**

Unfortunately, under the current constraints we are working under I do not foresee a safe way to undertake transition activities, in school, this academic year. Fortunately, though, we are a small enough school that most children do already know most staff, if only by face, rather than by name. With your child's report will also be a letter detailing which teacher and class your child has been allocated for the next academic year. We will also be sending you a short presentation, for you to share with your child, showing them their new teacher and classroom.

### **Library Books**

Please drop off any library books that you have at home. This is especially important for our Year 2 children, who will of course be leaving us this year. A box will be outside the main school front door for you to place them in.

### **Summer Holiday Closure**

The government have not asked schools to remain open over the summer holidays, for any children. In certain regions of the country the government are providing *Holiday Activities* run by private companies, but Surrey has not been chosen by the government, as one of those areas. Information was shared with schools earlier this week, regarding this scheme and full details can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-of-children-to-benefit-from-free-meals-and-activities>

I am mindful that, for some of you, childcare will need to be organised for the summer holiday period so in order to give you as much notice as possible please be aware that; **Bagshot Infant School will be closed**, to all children from **3.00pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> July**. Our home learning will also pause at this point, until we return to school in September.

### **Free School Meal Vouchers**

The government also announced last week that they have now decided to issue Free School Meal vouchers for the summer holiday period, to those eligible parents. My understanding is that these will be issued as a one-off voucher, at the start of the summer holiday period, not in weekly instalments as they currently are. Once I receive further guidance from government, I will of course inform you of how we will proceed.

Yours sincerely

Miss K Aldred