

5<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents,

### **School re-opening**

As you will already be aware, on Monday the school extended its provision to include the children of Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 as well as the children of key workers. I appreciate that sending your child back to school has been a very difficult decision for many of you and I understand that everyone will have different circumstances at home which will influence the decisions they have made.

It was great to see the children who did return coming in on Monday morning. We have about 72% of reception children in, 78% of Year 1 children and 83% of Year 6. We have spent the first few days doing some transition stuff with the children – getting them used to their new way of working and talking about our current situation. They all seem fine and have settled back into school life so easily. They are very happy in their ‘bubbles’ or ‘pods’ and some of the children have told me that they are enjoying being with children they don’t normally play with. The teachers and teaching assistants were delighted to welcome them back and are enjoying the small groups! All our parents have been very well behaved too – just sending one person to drop off and pick up and not to staying on the school site for longer than necessary so thank you everyone!

If you have a child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 and you are not currently sending them into school it is not too late to change your mind. We would ask that parents give us some notice however so we can plan our staffing arrangements.

We do not currently have any further information from the government about the wider opening of schools. I have communicated, along with other local headteachers, our concerns about this to the Local Authority. Whilst we all want to see the children back in school as soon as possible, we would not be able to accommodate all the children safely at the moment. In the meantime Years 2 – 5 should continue with their Seesaw learning.

### **Reports**

We will be sending out reports at the end of this term although they might not have as much detail as they would normally have. We hope to get these out to you at the end of the term and provide an opportunity for parents to contact the teachers remotely if there is anything they need clarification on.

### Staffing

I am very sorry to say that Mrs Wilson (Beech Class) will be leaving us at the end of this year. Mrs Wilson is relocating with her husband to Devon. We will be very sad to see her go but wish her every success in her new life. Mrs Spencer (Holly class) will also, sadly, be leaving us at the end of this term. Mrs Spencer has a new job much closer to where she lives in Gloucester. We wish her every success in her new school.

I am delighted to inform you that Mr Tapley, who is currently teaching Ash Class, will be teaching Beech Class along with Mr Walters in September and we have appointed Miss Fitzgibbon to teach Ash Class in September. Miss Fitzgibbon worked as a student teacher at St. Mary's earlier in the year. Mr Walters and I will be recruiting to replace other staff over the coming weeks.

Have a good weekend everyone.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Woolley', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mrs J Woolley (Headteacher)