



'Partnership in Learning'

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COVID-19 Weekly Update

Dear Parents,

It was great to welcome our latest wave of Year 6 children in to school on Monday. It really is wonderful to see the school gradually filling with smiling faces; fun and laughter.

Please pass on my thanks to the children who have been on site for how well they are embracing the social distancing measures. I never fail to be amazed by how resilient children are; a lesson to all of us!

A HUGE thank you, once again, goes to our amazing staff group for how well they have balanced the requirements to run the site in such a new and specific way; with having fun with the children whilst also continuing to focus on the provision for all those still off site. A very challenging task. I'm very proud of you all!

Waiting List

As outlined in last week's bulletin, we are now running at our current maximum capacity. If you have emailed in regarding a place on our waiting list, please rest assured that you will be contacted as soon as we are in a position to offer a place. Unfortunately, from now this also includes the children of key workers who are not currently attending. We're sorry for any inconvenience this causes.

Keeping in Touch

As outlined above, the staff are very conscious of the numbers of children currently off site; something which now looks set to continue in the most part until September at the earliest. With this in mind, we are continuing to review and evolve the link between children and their teacher; looking to maximise the time available on Fridays to support this.

Reminder of what is currently in place:

The lessons that are being taught on site are uploaded in to children's Google Classroom. Work can be uploaded to this or emailed in to the year groups, using the relevant Gmail accounts (see remote learning section of the school website for details). These email addresses are checked daily and can also be used to ask the staff questions or to request a follow up 'Friday phone call' if you would like one.

From next Friday (19th June 2020):

We are aiming for year groups to begin hosting weekly 'Google Meet' sessions for their children. There will be specific information sent out next Wednesday (17th June 2020) regarding how these can be accessed; the times they will be happening (these will be staggered to make things easier for siblings sharing the same machine) and outlining 'etiquette' for use. Please watch this space and bear with us if the technology proves temperamental..!

Children Currently in School

Thank you to everyone who is sending their children in with as little 'kit' as possible. As a reminder, in order to minimise cross contamination, the children only need to bring: packed lunch (optional); sun hat (and/or coat) and a water bottle. Everything else will be provided.

As we have suspended uniform, please ensure that the clothes the children are wearing remain appropriate for school. The ideal clothing is old, 'sporty' clothes as these can be worn whether the children are painting; playing or doing PE.

Food Parcels

A reminder that eligible families whose children are not on site can still collect their weekly food parcels between **12:30pm and 13:00** each Monday.

If you are eligible and would like to start collecting food parcels, or should your circumstances change and you become eligible for this provision, please contact the school office (adminoffice@lymington-jun.hants.sch.uk) so that we can ensure one is made up for you.

Alternatively, if you require additional support in this area, the **Lymington and Pennington Food Bank** are open and may be in a position to help. Contact the school as above in the first instance and we can look in to the referral process for you.

Transition

Year 6 to 7

We continue to liaise with Priestlands regarding the children who will be starting there in September. Rest assured that there are mechanisms in place for us to handover key information regarding the children's attainment (this will generally be as of March 2020); information regarding friendships etc as usual. More information, including virtual tours, is available on the Priestlands website at: <http://www.priestlands.hants.sch.uk/Year-6-transition>. These virtual materials will be shared with the children on site over the next few weeks.

Year 2 to 3

If you have a child joining us in year 3 at the start of the next academic year, you will have received an initial pack from us. Thank you to everyone who has completed and return the relevant information already. There will be more information following shortly regarding our 'virtual' transition offer which will be as close to the 'actual' offer activities as we can possibly manage (including a virtual welcome evening for parents via Google Meet). Rest assured that we are also liaising closely with the Infant School staff in order to gather as much information from them as possible.

End of Year Reports

We will be sending out reports during the week beginning Monday 13th July 2020 as usual. These will provide key information regarding the children's attainment; effort in lessons and personal/social development in school up to March 2020. It will also, in many ways most importantly, provide the targets that the children's next year team will be working with them on initially upon their return. More information will be provided nearer the time.

Final Reflection

As we approach the return of Premier League football next Wednesday (and Saints' first game live on TV next Friday night), I'm beginning to wonder how long it will take the Reds to lose their first game; at that point I for one will feel a step closer to my 'old normal'...!

Best wishes and be safe everyone.

Dan Twyman
Headteacher