



9th July 2020

Dear Parents

I am writing to update you on our plans for transition and full-time schooling for all children from September.

Transition Visits

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all those children who have been learning at home into school next week. The sessions will provide an opportunity for children to spend time with their class teacher, as well as visiting new teachers and classrooms where appropriate.

The sessions are scheduled as follows:

Y2: Monday 13th 2:15 – 3:15pm

Y3: Tuesday 14th 2:30 – 3:30pm

Y4: Thursday 16th 2:30 – 3:30pm

Y5: Friday 17th 2:30 – 3:30pm

Children will be met at the playground gate by their class teachers and escorted into school where they will be asked to wash their hands before the session begins. They do not need to wear school uniform and can bring a filled water bottle if they wish. Please collect your children from the gate at the end of the session. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE EARLY AS OTHER PARENTS WILL BE COLLECTING THEIR CHILDREN SHORTLY BEFORE THE SESSION BEGINS AND OBSERVE SOCIAL DISTANCING WHILE WAITING ON THE FOOTPATH.

Arrangements for the last day of term

We shall be having a Virtual Leavers' Celebration at 1pm on Tuesday 21st July via Zoom. We are hoping that as many families as possible will join us to say 'goodbye' to our Year 6 children on their last day of primary school.

*Please note that the leaving time for children in Reception and Year 1 will be later on that day as we would like **Year 6 to leave first at 1:45pm**. If your child is in Reception, please collect at **2:05pm**, Year 1 children should be collected at **2:20pm**.*

Mrs Lawson will send an invitation to join the meeting next week.

The Uffington Plan – Phase 2

The second phase of the plan to reopen school to all children from September is being developed. The plan will be finalised by staff and governors by next Tuesday before being shared with you. Reach for the Stars will be open for wrap-around care from the beginning of term although we do not plan to run any extra-curricular clubs until later in the term.

Meeting for Parents of Children in Years 4 and 5

Mr Carl Smith, Principal of Casterton College, will be presenting a virtual meeting for parents on Thursday 16th July on MS Teams. The meeting will take place at 10am. Please let Mrs Lawson know if you would like an invitation to join the meeting.

Government Catch Up Scheme

Although the government have announced that £650 million will be shared across state primary and secondary schools over the 2020/21 academic year, we have yet to hear how much we will receive. This one-off grant recognises that all young people have lost time in education as a result of the pandemic, regardless of their income or background. Whilst head teachers will be given the powers to decide how the money is spent, the government expects this to be spent on small group tuition for whoever needs it. Separately, a National Tutoring Programme, worth £350 million, will provide tuition for the most disadvantaged young people.

We know that even though you have worked extremely hard to support home learning, many of you are concerned about your children's education and the impact of long-term school closure on your children's well-being. Part of the Uffington Plan is to ensure that all children are supported as they return to school; during the first few weeks, there will be an increased emphasis upon key skills as well as emotional health and well-being. We know from our experience with those children who returned to school at the beginning of June that children soon adapt, and we are confident that we will be able to make up for lost time.

And finally...

Your children's teachers have planned work for next week but there will be no work set for the last two days of term. I have asked staff to focus on activities that are straightforward and allow the children to have a bit of fun. Details regarding the Virtual Uffington Sports Day will be sent home shortly - we hope that the whole family will enjoy taking part!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs HR Simms

Headteacher