

St Day and Carharrack Newsletter

Self-belief, Determination and Courage

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Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families are well.

This week is more of an update in light of another busy week of changes in the world of education. I do apologize for not being able to give you a robust plan yet – behind the scenes; we are planning for a number of scenarios. With the Governing Body, we continue to monitor the situation daily and weekly.

Following a Full Governing Body meeting last Thursday, I can confirm that we will be opening for two small groups of Year 6 children next week- for mornings only in the first instance. We are really looking forward to welcoming some more children back! We will support the children to adjust to the new routines and get used to the strict procedures we have to follow.

As more families have to go back to work, we have welcomed more 'key worker' children back this week. Please do get in touch with the school office if you require a place in the future, as we will need one-week notice.

We continue to plan for a phased return – a week at a time. For the next two weeks, we will focus on our Yr 6 children and adapt our risk assessment if necessary before opening more widely to groups of children in Reception and Year 1. This decision remains with families. If your child comes to school, we will be accessing the same learning that we send home to you.

Due to the complexities of staffing, a growing 'key worker' group and in response to any changing government advice, we need to review our offer of provision on a weekly basis. Our risk assessment is 'dynamic' and subject to change.

**WASH
THOSE
HANDS**

Speaking on Tuesday this week, in the House of Commons, Gavin Williamson, Education Secretary, confirmed that the government is scrapping plans for remaining year groups to return to school before the end of the academic year and it was then down to individual schools to decide whether they have capacity for the children to do so. We never believed that this would be possible alongside the social distancing guidance we have to follow. As a staff team, we have already been considering some different ways that we can make contact with each class so that there is some 'closure' and celebrations before the summer break.

OUR PLANS MOVING FORWARD... LOOK OUT FOR:

- THE SOCK OLYMPICS!
- COLLECTING SCHOOL REPORTS
- DATES FOR EACH CLASS MEETING UP – ONLINE! This will be a great opportunity for everyone to see each other and have some fun together!



IN THE MEANTIME... Let's do one more push with learning for the next four weeks before the summer break. Teachers are still planning some great activities each week, which will give your children a good routine and keep all those skills ticking over. I am sure you are aware that June is 'Pride' month, which gives us an opportunity to learn about tolerance, education in pride history and continuing to move forward in equality. With so much going on in the news at the moment especially with 'Black Lives Matter' and equality for all – you will see the learning grids focus on the themes of love, fairness and further up the school, relationships and acceptance. This fits with our whole school drive of making sure we give our children opportunities to discuss their feelings and develop tolerance and mutual respect for each other. We want our children to have the 'courage' to be proud of who they are. **If you require a printed pack of learning, please let your class teacher know as this can be printed and collected by you on a weekly basis.**

I understand that many of you will now be thinking about September and what school may look like then. It is important to note that currently, no confirmed plans for September have been released by the DfE and many lengthy decisions will need to be made about medium- and longer-term - provision in England. As further DfE guidance is released, I will work closely with the governors to formulate our plans and communicate these with you. Rest assured, that all necessary transition plans to prepare for your child's return to school will take place.

Our children and families, who are not currently in school with us, remain firmly in our thoughts and we look forward to the day when we will be reunited. Thank you for your support in delivering the home learning and for your many positive comments regarding the support our team are offering.

HEALTH AND SAFETY ON SITE

I can assure parents that we have carried out all the statutory testing and compliance works to ensure the building is safe for more children returning– including all fire risk testing, water checks - flushing of the whole system and emergency lighting tests. The building has been thoroughly cleaned with all PPE in place. Please remind your child of the importance of handwashing:

Wash Your Hands After...



HM Government

NHS

Coronavirus

Wash your hands with soap and water more often for 20 seconds



Use a tissue to turn off the tap.
Dry hands thoroughly.

CORONAVIRUS
PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS

USEFUL WEBSITE LINKS FOR PARENTS TO ACCESS

As a school, we are mindful of how you are all in different places and require different solutions. Some of us just want everything back to 'normal' and some of us remain anxious, worried or fearful. We are here to support your needs or guide you to further resources. Our whole staff team have now completed bereavement training and additional TIS – Trauma Informed School training aimed at supporting the needs, emotions and feelings of the whole child.

King's College London's Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience, have launched a series of eight short films to help families struggling under the coronavirus pandemic. The Families Under Pressure series offers parenting tips and advice on topics including:

- keeping positive and motivated
- building your child's self-confidence and trust in you
- promoting better behaviour; how to limit conflict
- using sanctions carefully

<https://maudsleycharity.org/whats-on/news/kings-college-london-nhs-maudsley-hospital-and-maudsley-charity-launch-families-under-pressure/>

WHAT IS THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE?



The Summer Reading Challenge, presented by The Reading Agency and funded by Arts Council England, encourages children aged 4 to 11 to set themselves a reading challenge. We will launch this next week as a whole school but if you just can't wait, follow this link for some brilliant ideas and resources: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/parents-carers>

OUR VIRTUE: **COURAGE**

Courage is bravery in the face of fear. You do the right thing even when it is hard or scary. When you are courageous, you do not give up. You try new things. You admit mistakes. Courage is the strength in your heart.

*Use Courage to try the 5 **C**s*

Build your 'courage' this week by taking the first step... try something new – be creative, communicate your ideas, collaborate with others, be a critical thinker and challenge what you hear...

**IT TAKES
COURAGE
TO GROW UP
AND BECOME
WHO YOU
REALLY ARE**
— e.e.cummings —

**Wishing you all a safe and happy week ahead.
With best wishes, Susannah Storey Headteacher**