



Rushwick C.E Primary School
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Friday 26th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – Friday 26th June

It has been extremely hot in school this week but I have been so impressed with the positive attitude and behaviour of all the pupils who have been in school. I also continue to feel so proud of the staff and wider community in the way everyone has worked together in dealing with the challenges of these unusual times. Rushwick School will not feel back to normal until all children and staff are back. Our home learning resources and systems remain a priority for us. The school leadership continues to be making careful plans for a full return for everybody in September.

Latest News:

- Every classroom in school is being used for our six bubbles, with at least two teaching staff for each bubble. The Reception bubble has taken over two classrooms as Mrs Ballinger has been supporting Mrs Stephens and Mrs Edmondson in providing small group support for phonics and other key areas of learning development.
- We have had an average of around 65 pupils in school (a third of the school and over two thirds of those legible within our current restrictions). We have slightly less on a Friday and fully appreciate the support of the priority pupils' families in enabling us to close early to provide staff with essential planning, preparation and assessment time. Some of our vulnerable pupils are coming in part time and some pupils have not felt ready to come back to school. All of this is absolutely fine.
- The vast majority of the pupils remain focused on their home school learning and we would like to thank you all for your fantastic support in supporting us through this. Please do contact the class teacher or myself if you have any worries or questions. I can be contacted via the school office.
- Parents / carers of Year 1 pupils have been contacted to inform us as to whether their children will be in school from July 6th for the final two weeks of the term. We can't wait to see you all.
- We are finalising our plans to invite Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 into school for an induction session in readiness for the September return. Information about this will be sent out at the end of next week. I hope we can see as many of you as possible on these occasions.
- More of our pupils have been coming into school but we are working hard to ensure the right provision are in place for a September return for all our pupils. We expect to know more from the DfE by the end of next week.
- The school will not be open for any pupils during the summer holiday period, as we have robust catch-up plans for our pupils for the new academic year.
- Next week is the last week for the Reception Bubble. This will enable us to have a Year 1 Bubble, as well as enable Mrs Stephens to deliver transition processes for priority pupils within the September 20/21 cohort.
- The Year 6 Bubble has two more weeks to run, and they will all be invited back in on the final Friday afternoon of the school year for a leavers' celebration event.
- The school library roof is being fixed next week, after being postponed because of the Covid19 lockdown restrictions.

- Annual end of year pupil reports to parents will be sent out from next week, starting with Reception and KS1, with KS2 following the week after. Parents' consultations are planned for early in the Autumn Term.

From September 2020:

- The new school year will start on Thursday 3rd September (Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September are confirmed training days).
- Three Teacher Training Days for 2020/21 have yet to be finalised.
- Class teachers will remain in the current year groups next school year.
- Year 6 and Year 4 classrooms will be swapped around to allow more space.
- Support staff arrangements are almost finalised. This is following a staffing structure reorganisation necessitated by the consequences of the Covid19 crisis. There will be an increase in support for every pupil, but particularly the vulnerable children.
- We are still committed to providing 'wrap around care' via Little Stars, but this will not be possible for at least the start of the Autumn Term, as provision for the regular school day has to be our priority for the moment.
- Staggered starts and finishes to the school day will continue in order to ease congestion within the playground and surrounding areas. We are likely to also need to finish on Friday lunchtimes to enable teaching staff to have ring fenced PPA time and avoid crossing over of the year group bubbles.
- We are unlikely to be able to offer hot meals for the at least the first half term, but a wider choice for packed lunches is being discussed with our caterers.
- Pupils will continue to not need to have a school uniform, at least for the first half term so please do not worry about buying anything for the moment.

I hope the school community finds these weekly updates useful. Thank you for all your support for the school during these challenging times for everybody.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Jeffrey (Headteacher)