



Horsell CofE Junior School



3rd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers:

End of term update

Well, what a strange and challenging few weeks it has been! I am currently sitting alone in school, communicating with colleagues via Microsoft teams, Zoom and goodness knows what else. If nothing else, this strange time is teaching me a huge amount about the potential of technology.

Childcare Provision

As you know, our childcare provision has moved to Sythwood School. Over Easter, the children of Key Workers will be participating in a Holiday Club at the school, which is being run by an external company. We are all very grateful to Sythwood for organising this and letting us use the service. After Easter, a small team of our staff will return to Sythwood, on a rota basis, to look after our children.

Easter Vacation

Today is the last day of term and 'virtual school' will be closed for the next two weeks. There will be no work posted on the website and teachers will not be responding to emails during this time. It is important that we all try to maintain some of the rhythms of normal life so I would ask that you do not contact the school unless you have a question regarding our childcare provision. The phone lines will only be manned between 9 and 10 and should only be used if you have a question regarding this. Thank you very much for your support.

SEESAW

Seesaw is an online learning platform, which, as you know, is being used by our Year 4 children. Other teachers have been undertaking some online training so that we can roll it out, gradually, to more children after Easter. If you do not already have one, the office will be sending out a QR code via email when we return after the break. This will enable your child to access the Seesaw app. Please be patient as our teachers learn to use this new software!

Phone calls from school

We are trying to phone parents and families to maintain contact so please do not be surprised if you receive a call from us during term time. In these times, it is important for us all to stay connected and the phone is one way that we can do that.

Looking ahead

Speaking to parents, one of the first questions I'm asked is, 'how long is this going to go on for?' The simple answer is, 'I don't know'. We are hoping for the best, but planning for an extended period of

school closure. This is difficult for all of us and we will do all we can to support you and your family over this time.

Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the past few weeks. We have all had many adjustments to make and I am very grateful for the positive messages and thanks that you have sent to the teachers and staff here at Horsell Junior. Teachers and TAs are, by their very nature, sociable people, and we are all missing the children very much.

We are all thinking of you over the holiday period and hope that you enjoy this time with your family.

Kind regards and best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Celia G. Wand".

Mrs C Wand
Headteacher