



15th May 2020

Dear Parents,

This week has been an overwhelming week for most of us. The announcement made by the Prime Minister on Sunday has left a lot of us with more questions and uncertainties and perhaps maybe some hope that we are turning a corner and heading back to some form of normality.

At school we are getting updates and emails sent almost every hour. We are working together to form a robust risk assessment, which needs to be met in order for us to open each of our schools to children and staff. There are many considerations that we need to take into account before we can safely open our doors to children and staff.

A survey was sent out to parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. This will help inform us of the number of pupils hoping to return to some form of schooling on 1st June.

Full guidance around the reopening of schools can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020/actions-for-education-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>

If your circumstances have changed and you no longer are able to keep your children safe at home and you are a key worker, please let us know. The list of key workers has not currently changed and can be found on the Gov.uk website or via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Any new requests for childcare from parents who have not accessed the provision over the last 7 weeks will need to be put in an email to Mrs Washington at fbm@uwpf.n-yorks.sch.uk. We will need one week's notice to ensure adequate staffing, catering, social distancing measures and planning provision can be put in place for the additional children. You will also need to provide information of how you meet specific criteria set out on the above website.

By the end of next week we will provide parents of pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 a clear idea of what will be happening on 1st June. If we are able to open we will explain what this looks like so that you can prepare your children. As a parent myself, I know that my biggest worry is having to explain to a 5 year old that she cannot play or sit with her friends – this is sad and distressing but please know that we will do our absolute utmost to nurture and support your child in what will be a very different school environment to what they have become used to.

Kettlewell Primary is currently having building repair work. We are hoping that most, if not all, of the work will be complete by 1st June. If this is not the case and there is not enough space to open to school safely, we will invite your children to one of the other schools in the federation.

Our staff have been trying their best in this situation – providing childcare for key worker children, preparing activities for home learning, responding to emails from parents and children, setting up calls, sending videos and photos. For some staff this has been more difficult than others as they have their own personal circumstances to deal with. As we are in a federation we

have pulled together and we hope that parents appreciate that this time presents all sorts of issues where our own families take priority. We know that you will all join us when we send our thoughts and prayers to those staff – particularly a number of staff at Grassington who have lost parents and close friends to COVID-19 and those, like Mr Roe, who is currently housed in temporary accommodation without any network signal as he socially-isolates himself to protect and care for his father who is terminally ill.

Prayer from Reverend David Macha



God of compassion,
May your presence bring us peace.
Heal the sick; comfort the fearful;
Encourage those in isolation.
Draw close to all who mourn,
And hold each one in their grief and loss.
Tend to broken hearts;
Bring hope from dark despair.
Surround us with your love,
And still our anxious minds.
May your strength be our solid ground;
'Be the light' in our lives we pray.
In Jesus' name. Amen

Support from Home Start

If any family that live within the Craven district and have a child under 5 years old and have endured significant financial hardship as a direct result of the current situation. This is primarily a new beneficiary profile; those who are self-employed but are currently unable to work and those have been furloughed. Please email your school administrator as we may be able to put a referral into Home Start to provide support for you and your family should you meet the criteria.

Pupil Premium

If your financial circumstances have changed due to the Coronavirus your child may be entitled to pupil premium funding. Details of this, including the application can be found here:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Birthdays



Happy Birthday to Charlie in Year 3 – hope you have a lovely day

Please keep in touch – we love to hear from the children and see photos of what they have been up to.

Stay safe

Ella Besharati & Chris Boxall
Executive Headteachers

