

4th January 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to our new Spring Term. We hope you and your families are all well and managing in these trying circumstances.

We will be starting our new term for pupils on Tuesday 5th January at home, or at school if you are a Critical Worker. We are working in good faith with our school community and will be accepting all those who applied for the Critical Worker Provision. However, please only use this provision on the days you actually work, as the rate of infection is so high at present, and if there is someone who is working at home consider that they can look after your child/ren. It is far safer for our staff, as well as for your child, if you keep your child/ren at home when you can. We shall be, in line with other schools, requiring our staff to wear masks in the classroom and checking the temperature of all those who enter the school at different points of the school day in a bid to ensure everyone is as safe as they can be. We are not providing lunch so please make sure your child has lunch and enough snacks and water to get them through the day.

For those children at home we are running school from 8.15am-3.00pm. The SLT will be reviewing how the week has gone on Thursday and may lengthen the school day by adding an additional lesson next week to support the children's learning if this works on balance with other considerations.

Finally, we understand it is a fraught time for parents working at home and having to support their children's home school learning. We have worked hard, since we returned to school in September, on providing a consistently high standard of teaching and learning for all children whilst at the same time planning for the eventuality of having to deliver home school learning. Our teachers have sent homework via Google Classroom to ensure both staff and parents became used to it and been able to use it, as well as using Google Meets when teachers or 'bubbles' have had to isolate.

We realise, however, that we may not get everything right this week and we may not have planned for every eventuality (although we have tried to). In the same way that you as parents have challenges in worrying about family members and working from home from full and often noisy households, our staff also have the same pressures. Please remember this if you do need to raise a concern and be polite and respectful to us, remember it is easier to write a vociferous email in temper but it can cause a lot of damage and angst at a time when we need to join together as a school community. Regardless of the tone of the email we will always try to rectify a problem but it is far easier to do so when we can be respectful towards one another.

We look forward to seeing the children on Google Meets or in person in school.

Best regards,

Mrs Gross and Mr Kett