



Friday 23rd April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back after a lovely Easter Break which no doubt brought a mixture of chocolate, sunshine and some new opportunities as lockdown continues to be cautiously relaxed. I expect that many of us have used the time to meet with family and friends and perhaps venture to a shop or two. It has been great to come back to super weather and we have benefitted greatly by being able to use more of our outside space.

It is still really important that we continue to follow our Covid guidelines and ensure that we all observe the hands, face and space message. We have been fortunate with not having a single bubble 'pop' but are mindful of the fact that this can change at any moment. Staff continue twice-weekly testing and you as parents can also access non-symptomatic test kits too if you wish. We have reviewed the updated government guidance and at this stage are making no changes to our risk assessments and so working practices will continue as before. We are now providing small group, core subject (maths and English) teaching to support the children after two substantial lockdown experiences, but this falls within the mitigations allowed for teacher movement at a social distance.

In consideration of the experiences of lockdown, this week The Big Ask, a national survey of children has been launched. We will be sharing information with the children about this survey in assembly time next week and then will send home the link for you and child to have your voice heard.

Unfortunately, I have once again been isolated at home and have so far only heard the children during calls or seen them over TEAMS. You may recall that I previously had some time off for an operation in January and I am now due a further operation next week which will see me away from school for a significant amount of time. This timescale was completely unexpected and I am so sad to have not been able to spend some socially distanced time with each class.

If all goes to plan, I will not return until the Autumn term at the earliest. Everything at school for the summer term is in place and the everyone at school is geared up to support the children's learning as part of our post lockdown teaching plans. Eagle School has a brilliant and experienced team who will seamlessly continue the plans we have and the day-to-day running of the school.

As we are a small school, every pair of hands counts! As our summer term teaching programme is already keeping everyone very busy, to provide extra support and fulfil my office-based duties, we have arranged for a collaboration with another school during my absence. They will oversee school and provide an Interim Head of School onsite, initially for four half-days and then for two full days. Lorraine Marcer from St John's Primary Academy will take Executive control and Barry Thornton will be deployed to us at Eagle. These are not only professional colleagues, but also friends who I feel reflect our school ethos in their style and will be there to support the wonderful work of the staff.

All being well, I will try to visit school during my recuperation to say 'hello', but for now I wish you all well. Thank you for your on-going support, it is greatly appreciated.

Best wishes
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