



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well.

It was with great regret that I had to take the decision to close Year 2, Year 4 and Year 5 this week due to positive cases of Coronavirus within those year group bubbles. However, I am sure that you agree with me that this was the correct course of action in order to reduce the risk of spreading infection further within our school community. It has been an unpleasant but timely reminder that we are not yet “out of the woods” in terms of Coronavirus. In school we are taking every possible measure to keep our children and staff safe. School staff have been thankful for the support that parents and carers have shown and for the fact that the very vast majority have followed the procedures that we have set in place. There are a very few who have not followed the guidance we have previously set out however, and so I would like to remind all parents/carers that :

- only one parent/carer should enter the site to drop off or pick up children
- a face mask should be worn when entering the school setting
- timings for dropping off and picking up pupils must be adhered to
- They must leave the site immediately and not gather in the playground

On Tuesday, we held a minutes silence in school to mark the first anniversary of the country being put into lockdown as part of the **National Day of Reflection**. During our silence we thought about all those who had passed away and all those who have dedicated themselves to tending those made sick by Coronavirus.

#### **After School Clubs**

On Tuesday, your child will have received a letter regarding the After School Clubs that will take place after the Easter Holidays. In that letter it stated that the form to take part in one of the clubs on offer had to be handed back to the Class Teacher by today (Friday 26th, March). I am mindful of the fact that, due to the closure of some year groups, it will not have been possible for all children who wish to take part in a club to have returned their form, and so I have taken the decision to extend the date for when the form has to be handed back to the Class Teacher until Tuesday 20th April. As a result of this extension, clubs will now begin during the week commencing Monday 26th, April and not during the week commencing Monday 19th April as was our original intention.

#### **Fruit in Key Stage 2**

When we return to school after the Easter Holidays we will begin providing fruit for Key Stage 2 children at breaktime. This healthy choice of snack will be free to all pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. We already provide free fruit in Reception and Key Stage 1.

#### **Parent Consultations**

Parent Consultation meetings for parents and carers of pupils in Years 1, 4, 5 and 6 will take place via telephone on the 29th, 30th and 31st of March. A very big thank you to all parents and carers who have already booked an appointment. If you have not yet booked an appointment, then contact your child's class teacher to do so.



## Easter Free School Meals Scheme

If your child is currently eligible for free school meals, you will be contacted by the school office during next week (the week commencing Monday 29th, March). Parents who have previously asked for their vouchers to be printed out, will have them printed out again and you will receive a text message once they are ready to collect. All other claimants will receive a text message with a link, cheque number and validation code to redeem.

## Comic Relief

The Marsh Hill School Community has again shown its generosity when it comes to raising money for those less fortunate than ourselves by raising £246.05 for Comic Relief.

## School Dates

### Spring Term 2021

School closes for Easter: Thursday 1st April, 2021

### Summer 2021

Term Starts: Monday 19th April, 2021

School closes for Half Term: Friday 28th May, 2021

Return to school: Monday 7th June 2021

School closes for Summer: Tuesday 20th July 2021

I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that school is shut Monday May 3rd, 2021 as this is a Bank Holiday; and on Thursday May 7th, 2021 for Local Elections, as school is required to be used as a Polling Station.

School will also be closed to pupils on Wednesday 12th May for staff training.

I wish you all a safe, peaceful and enjoyable weekend.

Head Teacher