



St Leonard's CE Primary Academy  
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2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to Term 6. We do hope that you are all safe and well.

With the government announcement on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May, our first phase of our reopening plan can begin on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June. We are keen to see a return to school of all our children, however as stated before the safety of all of our community is of utmost priority.

The decision of which year groups return has not been my decision to make. The government guidelines for schools, state that where a setting cannot open to all year groups identified in their plan, settings must prioritise, Reception and Year 1. The provision for key worker children must also be able to continue.

We will review the situation carefully over the next term and if we can safely open to Year 1 and year 6, we will. This is again a new way of working for us all and still a time where government guidelines may change. We will ensure that we will adapt to any new measures put in place but always with your children's and the school's community safety and well-being at the heart of it.

We are keen to provide something for year 6 pupils to mark the end of their time at St Leonard's and we will look to see how and what we can safely provide in order to recognise this and provide them with a chance to say goodbye. We know that there are a variety of secondary schools that the children are transitioning too and they may also be in touch. This again may look very different for each school.

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June will be an introductory day for the children in Reception to familiarise themselves with the school and then start Monday - Thursday each week from 8<sup>th</sup> June. School will be closed to the Reception class on Friday's. The times of the day for the reception class will be:

Monday -Thursday

Morning drop off: **9.00am**

Afternoon Pick up: **2.50pm**

Whilst we are all keen for the children to return to school, I will provide an information sheet with this letter, that will outline how very different it will be from the school we usually know. I want to ensure you that all of the new protocols and practices are based on the Government guidance that schools have to follow and have been put into place because the safety of the children, parents and staff within our community are of the utmost priority.

Some of the measures that we have had to put into place restrict the provision that we can now offer from being and acting in the way that we pride ourselves on usually being to offer. The government guidance is now: **Stay alert / Control the virus / Save lives** and this is exactly what we all need to do in order to safeguard our community against the virus. **Please ensure that you read this information sheet before your child's return to school.**

I appreciate that there will be a wealth of information in the sheet provided with this letter but I wish to be as open and transparent with you regarding the new way in which school will have to operate under the present conditions and I have included some photos so that if you feel it is appropriate to share with your child, it will enable you to discuss with them beforehand the changes that they will see.

We also recognise that most of our children will still be working from home and we intend to continue to provide Home Learning and contact via Zoom. This week the home learning plans are in place. From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June we will trial a project approach. The project-based work will be set for a week at a time and be available on our website. There will be a project-based unit for Year 1 and Year 2, a project based unit for Year 3 and 4 and then one for Year 5 and one for Year 6. For any reception children not in school, we will provide parents with a bullet point list of areas being covered in that week. There will also be links to other online resources and I will make changes to the Home Learning page on the website, to reflect this.

With our increased provision in schools and our classrooms having the capacity to hold 10 children safely (15 in each of our key worker bases) all staff are back in teaching on a daily basis. The email addresses for Year 2 - 6 are still available to

use and Tapestry is still available for Year 1 and Reception children not returning to school. Contact with all of our pupils is important to all of us but during the time that school is open to the children in our care, our focus has to be that they are safe and following the measures put into place at school.

Our value for this term will be Perseverance. Jesus frequently encouraged his disciples to 'endure patiently' the difficulties and obstacles they encountered and to persevere in the face of adversity. I think we all feel at times that we are facing adversity under the present conditions. We will look at how we can be encouraged during these times of difficulty, how we stay motivated and how we continue to achieve. We know that the children have been succeeding and achieving with many things over the closure and we look forward to seeing what they have been up to recently, in our next set of Zoom's, next week. Each week I will also include a reflection / activity that explores this value of perseverance, on the Home Learning page of the website.

We know that this is likely to be a further term of change. We would like to thank you for all the support you have given to the school within this period of change and please know that we will be reviewing the situation regularly and always with the well-being and safety of the children in our care, at the forefront.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Warburton.