LEIGH

Primary School

The Green, Leigh, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 8QP

Telephone/Fax: 01732 832660

Friday 15th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a wonderful week and it's been lovely again to see what the children have been up to at home on Tapestry and their Google Classrooms. It was particularly good to see all of the VE Day celebrations that have taken place despite the current restrictions.

I'm sure many of you are aware that the Government have announced that it is their intention to allow children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to return to school on Monday 1st June. This is in addition to schools continuing to provide school places for those children of key workers and those classed as vulnerable. A letter with specific details about how this will operate at Leigh Primary School will be sent home on Tuesday of next week and this will include information about the precautions we will be taking here at school to ensure the health and safety of all children, parents and staff. Whilst many more details will be forthcoming, I am working towards a model whereby the children in those year groups will be returning to school on a 50% timetable. As well as allowing class sizes of no more than 15 children and staffing levels that are consistent with Government guidelines on social distancing, it will also provide a period of transition for children who have not now been in school for over two months. It will also mean that we will have the capacity to continue to provide online learning for those year groups who are not yet returning to school.

As I'm sure you appreciate, the school diary continues to be impacted by the current school closure. I'm sorry to report that all school events, trips and extra-curricular activities have now been cancelled until the end of the summer term. If you have paid any money for any events that have been cancelled then we will automatically fully refund you; there is no need to contact us separately regarding a refund. This will inevitably take time to process so please do be patient with us as we work our way through this process. I am still hopeful however that the following activities might be able to take place:

- The Year 5 residential between 22nd April- 24th April will be moved to the end of September or the beginning of October if possible. Further details about this will be available nearer the time.
- I will inform parents and carers of children in Year 6 next week regarding whether we have enough interest in moving the Year 6 residential to the October half term;
- I am still hoping that a different kind of End of Term Service might be possible JUST for children and parents in Year 6. Further details will be sent out nearer the time;
- I am still hoping that a Year 6 Prom might be possible in some format. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

Unfortunately it simply isn't going to be possible for us to put on a Summer Production this year or run our annual Sports Day.

On Wednesday 3rd June I was due to hold a Parent Meeting for all parents and carers of children in Year 5 to detail the Procedure for Entry to Secondary Education (PESE) and the 11+. This is obviously not going to be possible in its usual format. This year I will update all the information and then send the slides from the meeting on Tuesday 2nd June to all parents and carers of children in Year 5. I will then be available throughout the day on Wednesday 3rd June to take calls from parents who wish to discuss any of this information in further detail and to answer any questions you might have.

On Monday 18th May, Mrs Halfhide will be returning from maternity leave. Mrs Halfhide will (when normal service resumes) be working for 2 days a week in Hedgehog Class and then for 2 days a week in a management role. We have been unbelievably fortunate to have had Mrs Prockter covering this period for us and I would like to express my sincerest thanks to her for all the wonderful work she has done throughout this time. Mrs Prockter is a very talented and much valued member of our staffing team and I'm very hopeful that we will be seeing more of her at school in the very near future.

We have been distributing Free School Meal vouchers for those that qualify for them through Edenred and this equates to £3 a day per pupil. Vouchers can only be distributed to those of you who have registered your child for Free School Meals. If you believe you might qualify and haven't yet registered then I would urge you to do this as soon as possible and the best way of doing this is online via this link: https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals

May I wish you and your families a wonderful weekend. I will write again on Tuesday with detailed information regarding further arrangements for Term 6.

Very best wishes,

Daniel Eaton
Headteacher Leigh Primary School

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