

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Village
Westbury-on-Severn
Gloucestershire
GL14 1PA

Telephone (01452) 760303

Head Teacher: Mr D. Crunkhurn

Email: admin@westbury-on-severncofe.gloucs.sch.uk



**Westbury-on-Severn
CE Primary School**

Tuesday 12th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are remaining well and enjoyed not only the sunshine last weekend, but also some celebrations to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

It was certainly an interesting weekend, not least because of the anticipated announcement for the way forward from the Prime Minister. Like you, I was also eager to find out what the 'road-map' for the way forward will be. We are now receiving directives and guidance from the Government, but this is still being written and tweaked. What we do know is that there is the hope of a phased return to school for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from 1st June. However, it needs to be stressed that this is a hope and not a certainty. There is still no guarantee that children, other than those we are already caring for in school due to keyworker regulations, will return on 1st June. Be assured that I will only allow this to happen anyway, if I feel it is safe to do so.

There are numerous questions that remain unanswered by the government at the moment, not least, questions surrounding safe working practices, which are still to be resolved and how we will make it all work in our small village school! More guidance is to come from the Government.

So to summarise, following the Prime Minister's announcement on Sunday night, West Gloucestershire Schools Partnership (WGSP) Headteachers' Group would like to clarify collectively that, in the short-term nothing has changed – our school like those in the rest of the country, remains closed to all pupils, other than those children whose parents are key workers who have previously booked childcare provision and those children deemed vulnerable.

The announcement on Sunday night encouraged those who cannot work from home to start to return to their jobs. However, please be aware that we are not able to accept children of these workers into school at present.

We appreciate that the uncertainty surrounding future planning remains difficult for us all, but know that you, like us, will want to ensure that every step is taken to make our school as safe as possible for all members of our school community whilst we take these tentative steps towards re-opening. Please be reassured we will keep you informed of any changes as soon as we have notification from the government.

In the meantime, until we know exactly what the plans for the future hold, we will continue to do the following:

- Remain open only for Key workers' children
- Set home-learning activities and challenges
- Keep you updated as we receive further details



- Check in with you pastorally to see how you are all doing
- Be available by email if you need any support

I know how frustrating the current situation is and as a father of two secondary-aged children who still have their school learning to complete, it is very hard to juggle school, home and work life. But, I will continue to do everything I can to make any return as practicable and smooth as possible.

In different news, during the Covid-19 Pandemic, Gloucestershire's Welfare Support Scheme has been extended and the funding increased to support people who are in financial hardship as a result of the virus.

The fund provides practical support to eligible adults and families for food, gas/electricity top ups and household items such as furniture including white goods/appliances and furniture. I am putting a link here so that you can look into this fund if you feel it would be helpful. In order to qualify, you will need to complete the application, which will be found by following the link.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/gloucestershire-welfare-support-scheme/>

Once again I want to thank you all for all your hard work at home; your patience and your unwavering support. These times continue to bring enormous amounts of uncertainty, anxiety and stress, but please know that I am thinking of you all that as a school we are doing everything we can to support the return to school, whilst at the same time organising home-learning. We will meet again soon.

With very best wishes,



David Crunkhurn
Headteacher

