

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**

Friday 19th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week's newsletter is tinged with sadness, as last week parents of children attending Bright Horizons pre-school were informed that they would be closing permanently from the end of this term. As a school, we have loved every minute of working in partnership with this organisation, which has served the village of Westbury and surrounding areas for 50 years. As a school, our thanks go to everyone who founded, worked in, supported and led this amazing organisation and brought early years education to many generations of children. Its closure will be a heartfelt loss to both our school and Walmore Hill School.

Recognising that this will inevitably leave a hole in the community, I am delighted to announce that, from September, **our school will be opening a fully integrated pre-school of our own.** We are all extremely excited about this, and our governors are working extremely hard to prepare our building for new arrivals. We have already had an overwhelming expression of interest, which suggests this is the right provision to offer at the right time. Covid-willing, a wonderful building project is set to take place over the summer holiday in preparation for a new pre-school zone, which will see this group really at the heart of our school community.

You may have already seen information in the community about some of the provision we will offer. This is currently being finalised, so we will have a lot more information to share very soon!

Our offer to parents will be consistent with the existing vision and aims of our Church school, which, as you know, already acts as the heartbeat to our school. The school team and I are so excited about extending this to our pre-schoolers and I know that our current pupils will be equally excited. A whole new buddy program will be established to support the new children arriving, both our new Reception children and pre-schoolers!

With complete flexibility to suit the needs of you as parents, and an extended team of Early Years practitioners leading the learning, this is going to be a wonderful addition to our school. Whether you need morning sessions or afternoon sessions, five full days or a single day, we want to help and support you in your needs. Initially, we will be operating with the same times as our current school day, which is 8.45am until 3pm. This means that if you already have children at our school, you can drop-off at the same time, or collect at the same time. We will also be providing rich opportunities for family learning, that we hope will support and encourage you in the amazing jobs you do as parents. Again, more information about this will follow in September.

If you do not currently have need for this provision yourself, please do share this with those that you know who might. The beauty of our pre-school is that it will be open to all. So, please spread the word and phone for more information. Registration forms will come out very soon, but we are currently taking names of interested parties and this is filling up fast already! To begin with, we will aim to accommodate 12 children at each half-day session, so if you know what provision you might require, do let us know!

Please don't think this is all about pre-school though, as over the holiday we will be completely changing the landscape of the school and reorganising learning spaces so that all our amazing children will be able to return to fresh and exciting learning, in new and improved locations. We now just need to hope that we can all return together, on time, in September!



As you know, it has always been my joy and delight to serve the families of our Westbury community and surrounding villages and parishes, and the staff and I look forward to welcoming not only our new reception children, but pre-schoolers at the same time in September!

In other news, if we were still together at school, I know that we would have been celebrating Father's Day together in the hall. I am sorry that this can not be the case this year, but I do want to express my own thanks to all the Dads, Granddads and male role-models that support the children in our school community. You all do an amazing job and it has been great to see so many of you supporting learning alongside your children at home during this crazy time. Thank you for all you do, to help develop and inspire them into the amazing people that they are. Have a great day, you deserve it!

With warmest wishes,



David Crunkhurn
Headteacher