

## **Coronavirus Update Friday 1 May 2020**

### **Busy Staff**

We would like to start by thanking our staff for their continued hard work during these times. With their own families, both young and old, as well as themselves to look after, they continue to beaver away on all sort of tasks on top of the excellent homework package they produced.

Policies have been reviewed, brochures updated, YR 2020 induction arrangements have been prepared to send out, end of year Records of Achievement have begun and a lot of thought and planning is being put in to how we teach skills and key vocabulary progressively in different subject areas across the whole school. An analysis of the Geography curriculum is almost complete and we move on to History shortly. Preparations have already been made to move on to other subjects should the lock down continue.

Thank you also to all staff who are on a rota to provide for children in school. It really is a very different job providing for children from 5 – 11 years old in the same room and we do not underestimate the challenges this presents. The children have responded superbly well, are a real pleasure to be around, and it is lovely to see new friendships blossom.

### **Staff Contact and Future Homework**

We know that the government announcement on Thursday 7 May should throw some light on where we go next as schools - we may well all need continued resilience. Ahead of that, we thank you for understanding the conditions in which we are working and for appreciating how long it now takes to turn things round. At this point, it therefore seems prudent to reserve our judgement on next steps with homework for after half term, as we may need to put our energies elsewhere – we just don't know.

We also decided last week to wait for the announcement before our staff send letters out to pupils. Teachers have already considered what they would like to say and we will go ahead with this should our energies not be required elsewhere.

### **Half Term and Bank Holiday**

We would like to confirm that we will be open to children of key workers who do not have an adult at home to care for them on Friday 8 May, the bank holiday set aside to remember VE Day. We will also be open during half term from Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May if the lock down continues to support fellow key workers.

### **Before and after school care**

We have received excellent news from Rocketeers regarding childcare provision based at Heather Playgroup from September. They have already had an

excellent response and many bookings, and are good to go, with just a contract to sign. Please see [www.rocketeerschildcare.co.uk](http://www.rocketeerschildcare.co.uk) for further details.

### **Food Provision**

Horsham Matters would like to remind you that all of their foodbank centres are closed, but they are operating a delivery service. If you are struggling to afford food, please contact them on 0300 124 0204 or [info@horsham-matters.org.uk](mailto:info@horsham-matters.org.uk). Deliveries are made within 48 hours, however please note that they are currently limited to once per fortnight to help manage limited stock.

### **Inclusion Update**

We have been given 6 weeks of free access to Clicker 8 to help with home learning tasks. We recommend using this for pupils who are finding writing tasks challenging. It is also beneficial for reluctant writers. Please see below for details if you feel this would be useful to support your child at home during this challenging time.

Your unique Clicker 8 serial number is:

89A0D 8MBUX 6X291 01DLY

This will give you an initial six weeks of free access for all pupils and staff. Go to [www.cricksoft.com/home-installation](http://www.cricksoft.com/home-installation) for all the information you need to get started, including installation instructions and helpful hints for getting the most out of the software.

### **Year 5 Classrooms**

In other good news, we can confirm that both year 5 classrooms will be redecorated with new CleverTouch technology in place when we next open.

Finally, best wishes to you all for the coming week as we all strive to continue to comply with the national agenda during these times.

Kind regards

M Gildea

Headteacher