

*"We will work in partnership to continue to build the unique foundations
for your child's learning"*

PARENTS NEWSLETTER

June 2020

During these very strange times we have been able to keep in touch with many of you. I am very lucky to have the most amazing staff who all pulled together to ensure that we were able to stay open for families that needed us.

I have had a lot of contact with some of you as we tried to work out how to give you the free school meal vouchers. Some of you have had all that you are owed up to now, others of you have had vouchers fail or never come. April and I are continuing to try and sort it out and to make sure that you are all able to receive your entitlement to the money.

On the 8th June we started to open the nursery to more children and on Monday 22nd we will welcome back some of our leavers for the 4 weeks until the end of term and they go off to their new schools.

I do not yet know what will happen in September, and the Government may not tell me until the end of August. I will keep in contact with all of you who we hope will return to us, if you have not yet responded to April's letter/email then please do even if it's only a call to let us know.

Black Lives matter

We are very lucky in Abbey Wood to live in a diverse community which this school reflects. This year we had families who spoke 23 different languages. It has always been our aim to equip all children to be able to go out into the world as confident learners able to hold their heads up. We try and support families to see themselves in the school community. The death of George Floyd and the resulting demonstrations have shown what a long way we still have to travel on this journey. We have started to look at our curriculum and the resources that we have in school so that we can better reflect and support the community that we are a part of.

During this time, I was sent a quote which has made me reflect.

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate the neutrality." Desmond Tutu

Please share with us anything that you feel the school could be doing differently, or better then please contact me.

We have put a number of strategies in place so that we can keep everyone in the school community safe. The children are washing their hands when they arrive and before they go home. They are washing their hands hourly and before they eat. They have adapted to all of the changes really well and happily line up to wait for a sink to be free.

The children are in 'bubbles' with the staff, these are not always in their own rooms, but we have ensured that there are familiar staff with them. It has been lovely to have the laughter return to the school and to have so many happy children pleased to be back with their friends.

In order to keep the numbers of children in groups of 16 (called 'bubbles'), that the Government has said we must, we have had to make changes to the timings that the children attend. This enables us to keep at a minimum the number of adults we have on site.

Drop off for morning session	
8.45	Space room
9.00	Moonlight Room
9.15	Star Room
End of morning session	
11.00	Space Room
12.00	Moonlight and Star part timers
Drop off for afternoon session	
12.15	Space room
12.30	Moonlight and Star part timers
Pick up at the end of the day	
2.30	Space Room
2.45	Moonlight Room
3.00	Star Room

If your circumstances have changed and you might now be entitled to free school meals, then please contact us. We are happy to try and support you with any application. If you are struggling to cope, then please contact us. We can link you to the right places for support. Gill can also request that you receive a food box

Please look after yourselves and your family,
Stay safe Gill and all the staff