# **Update Letter**

Astley Park School

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well and you enjoyed the half-term break and the warmer weather. I can hardly believe we have been back two weeks already and there are only four weeks left of this academic year.

It has been great to see the pupils quickly settle back into their routines following the break. They are all looking forward to an actioned packed four weeks with lots of fun and exciting events taking place at school.

I met with the governors the last week to discuss the ongoing challenge of staffing classes safely and staff crossing bubbles. We have agreed that staff can now cross bubbles if the need arises. This is already enabling us to keep classes open and the children are benefitting from being supported by staff who are more familiar with them and their needs.

# **Annual Reports**

It has been wonderful to read the pupils reports. It has given me such a valuable update on the pupils I know well and rich insight to the pupils that have joined us more recently. Just as I think I could not be any prouder of the pupils and staff; I read the reports and was literally bursting with pride. The pupils have showed unprecedented levels of resilience and determination and despite the odds have made impressive levels of progress in all areas. I am sure you will enjoy reading them as much as I have. The reports will be shared today via Evidence for Learning – please log on and look, please also add your feedback. If you need any help accessing the report and how to leave feedback, please contact your child's class teacher and they will be happy to help.

### **Parents Evening**

We have Parent-Teacher meetings taking place virtually via MS Teams across two evenings, Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd June. We used our new system EduLink One to book appointments and teachers have sent out MS Teams invites. If you have questions or queries, please email your child's class teacher. During parents evening you will find out which class your child will be in next year and who their teacher will be.

#### **Meet & Greet sessions**

We have a meet and greet session running virtually via Ms teams on Monday 28th June 4-6pm. Meet and greet is the opportunity for you to meet with your child's new class teacher and teaching assistants, see their classroom, pass on any essential information, and ask any questions you may have. Further information will be coming out soon.



















### **Parent Survey**

A huge thank you to all those parents that have already responded and completed our annual parent survey, I think we have had 55 responses so far, which is great. I would love to have a 100% response rate . If you are not able to complete it online, please contact the Business Support Team and a hard copy can be provided. There are treats for the classes where responses have been received from all parents, just a little fun and an incentive to complete. Please take the opportunity to give us your feedback, it is so important to us, and your suggestions and ideas can all be fed into our school development plan.

### **Transition Week**

For parents who have joined us more recently and may not know what it is, Transition Week usually takes place during the last week of the summer term and pupils and staff all move to their new classes, for the final week, giving everyone the opportunity to experience their new class and peers. We have found this to be helpful and reassuring for both pupils and staff. We had hoped that we would be able to run our transition week this year, after not being able to run it last year. However, with the continuation of restrictions we have taken the difficult decision not to run it again this year. We will however do everything we possibly can to help and support the pupils to make a smooth and successful transition to their new class, more information about our transition support will follow over the coming weeks.

### **Awards Assemblies**

We had planned to run two separate awards assemblies one for primary pupils and one for secondary pupils, however we have decided as they will now be taking place virtually via Ms Teams, we will have one awards assembly, which will be taking place on Friday 2nd July at 10am. We have had an incredibly difficult job of selecting the award winners, we received a record number of nominations from teachers. Parents of award winners will be contacted next week and will be sent an MS Teams invite to join the assembly.

### Year 6

We had planned to run a Year 6 graduation ceremony alongside the Primary Awards Assembly, followed by a fun afternoon celebrating with a party, games and snacks. Unfortunately, as this would involve mixing numerous bubbles it is now not possible. However, Year 6 pupils will receive a special trophy and certificate, which will be presented during the awards assembly.

#### Year 11

Pupils in Year 11 will be leaving us on Friday 9th July, we had planned to have a whole school leavers assembly on that day, but due to the current situation this will now not be happening. Instead, I will be running two leavers' assemblies one for 11R on Wednesday 7th July at 2pm and one for 11G on Thursday 8th July at 2pm. Mrs Linde and Mrs Powell will be in touch with further details next week.

















#### **Summer School**

I am pleased to say we have recently appointed an Out of School Club Leader, Mrs Dawn Mahood and will be able to offer the opportunity for pupils to access sessions at school during the summer holidays. Further details will be shared ASAP.

# **EduLink One - New Parent Information and Communication System**

Thank you to all those parents who have registered for EduLink One. The system provides you with essential information about your child/ren and has replaced the Xpressions app/Groupcall. It allows you to access essential documents such as review paperwork and update your contact information.

## Pupil testing

We are continuing to test secondary age pupils twice per week onsite and a have small number of secondary age pupils testing at home. I am pleased to report we have had no pupils test positive.

# Staff Testing

Staff are continuing to test twice weekly at home on a Wednesday and a Sunday. I am pleased to report we have had no staff test positive.

Thank you for your continued support.

Keep Safe



Kieran Welsh Headteacher

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