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20th June 2020

Dear Parents

I hope you and your family are well. It has been a busy but productive week in so many ways.

Home Learning Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed last week's survey with regards to home learning and keeping in touch. It has been useful to receive your feedback and we have already made some changes in response to this, including posting the videos of staff reading books at an earlier time slot. We recognise that many of you read your own stories to your child at bedtime but we hope that watching the videos at any time of the day may help your child to feel more connected to our staff and school. Your feedback also made us aware of how many parents aren't able to access our Facebook page so, as requested, we will try and put more information onto our website and send more via email (although not videos unfortunately as our system doesn't allow us to email them).

It would also be useful if everyone could download the `schudio` app, select our school and allow notifications as then we can send a message with a direct link to what has been added to the website. Hopefully, this will make accessing information quicker and easier for everyone.

Verbal Contact from the Class Teacher

I know that the classteachers have really enjoyed catching up with you and your child this week. The surveys proved a useful starting point. Thank you for the positive feedback so many of you gave them and for sharing ideas of how we can further support you. There are just a few parents that we haven't yet spoken to and the classteachers will try to catch up with them next week.

Printing Packs

We had lots of requests for work packs to be printed last Monday, thank you for coming to pick them up. We are happy to do the same again and will assume that everyone who wanted a pack last week will need one this week unless we hear otherwise. Do feel free to email bursar@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk by 9.00am if you haven't asked for one previously but need a pack printing.

Please don't come to collect anything before 11.00am due to break times. If there are children in the playground when you arrive, please ensure that you come straight to the office entrance and maintain social distancing at all time.

Virtual Sports Day

Wow! We have been totally blown away by all the wonderful entries for our Virtual Sports Day. It has been especially lovely to see so many family members and even pets joining in. It's not too late to enter, we are still allowing entries until 9 o'clock on Monday morning.

I know many of you have enjoyed watching the compilation of the videos. If you send in a video/photo and don't want it sharing please just say so in your email and we will count points for the entry but not put the video/photo on the Internet. When making this decision please bear in mind that, as I have previously mentioned, our Facebook page is not a closed group and obviously our website can be viewed by anyone. We are hoping to organise another family challenge over the coming weeks.

Lancashire Schools Games Competition

As our Virtual Sports Day has proved so popular, we are hoping that you may be interested in entering Lancashire Schools Games competitions, which work in a similar way. Wyre and Fylde School Sports Partnership set a challenge for children to complete at home and ask that a video or picture of the children completing the challenge is uploaded. The pupil with the winning entry will be crowned champion and the school with the most entries is also recognised! If we can get at least 10 entries in each of the next two events over the next two weeks we can also earn a virtual schools games award. The next competition is a Rounders/Dance Challenge. The information will be put on Facebook and also on the school website under news on Monday.

Keeping in Touch Sessions

Unfortunately, it has been such a busy week that there hasn't been enough hours in the day (or evening) to manage to fit in our 'keeping in touch' sessions.

I will endeavour to do so this coming week, most probably on the Friday and I am looking forward to talking to lots of our children. These sessions will be very informal and mainly a chance to come together and see some familiar faces and perhaps share some of our favourite lock down experiences. The vast majority of parents who completed the survey chose Zoom as the preferred option. Therefore, we will be using this. Next week I will email out details of how to access Zoom, a link to the meeting and password. I will also send guidelines for responsible use and I'd be grateful if you could share these with your child if you wish them to join us.

Transition

I know many of our children and parents will be worrying about the transition to the next year group especially those that are crossing key stages. We have been giving a lot of thought to that too and in the coming weeks we will be putting lots of things in place to support your child with this, including videos where appropriate.

Wider Re-Opening

We have sent detailed guidelines to all the parents in R, Y1 and Y6 who have indicated that they intend to send their children back to school and all our class bubbles are now full. Please ensure that you read these guidelines carefully, particularly in relation to the dropping off and collection times and which entrance to use. We have also added a video to Facebook and the website showing some of the changes we have made to school. You may wish to share this with your child. Please remember that the children will be returning on a phased basis with Y6 on Monday 22nd, Y1 on Tuesday 23rd and Reception on Wednesday 24th.

The classteachers will continue to provide home learning to all children not in school and will still be responding to emails. However, please do bear in mind that during the school day they will also be teaching one of the 'bubbles' as we have had to split up the children in school into smaller teaching groups so may not be able to reply quickly.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the weekend and hopefully a little sun. Stay safe and thank you for the fabulous support you are giving your children. Remember to be kind to yourself too!

Please don't hesitate to get in touch via email head@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk, messenger on our school Facebook page (both are being checked regularly) or by ringing school.

With very best wishes

Rhiannon Jones

