

Thursday 14th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

School Reopening

As you will no doubt be aware, the government have asked schools to prepare for a ***potential*** reopening for children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from, at the earliest, Monday 1st June 2020. However, this will not necessarily mean that all of these year groups will restart on this date.

Yesterday, I wrote to parents and carers of children in these year groups to gather their views on a potential return to school. I will contact all other parents in due course when I have more details on the return of other pupils.

I need to remind parents that the school only remains open for key worker children and those with a social worker at the present time. I appreciate that the new Government advice means that many people will now be considering a return to work, however, until the authorisation is granted from the Government we cannot accept any other pupils back in school for the time being other than these groups.

I assure you that we are planning ways to move as carefully as we can towards reopening and we want to reassure you that we will do this with everyone's safety at the forefront of our minds. It is important to note that you, as parents and carers will have ultimate control over whether to return your children to school if indeed it is an option – they are your children and you make the decisions that you believe are in their best interests. So it is important that you understand what is being proposed by the Government.

Government guidance for parents and carers can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

We promise to communicate our plans as soon as we have them in place and I ask you to be patient whilst these plans are being fully implemented.

*Please note that Netherbrook Acorns Breakfast and After School Club will be contacting the families that use their provision separately.

Payment Refunds

I have had some queries recently about parent refunds for monies paid for certain trips. To answer these concerns please note the following:

- All money paid for the Year 5 Think Tank visit will be refunded in full.
- All money paid for the Year 6 Kingswood residential visit will be repaid in full.
- All money paid for Year 3 and 5 swimming will be repaid in full.

In regards to the Year 6 Residential, I have tried to contact the Kingswood Centre on a number of occasions and have very limited responses – it would appear that they are snowed under. The school has paid most of the money to Kingswood already for the trip. We are still waiting for them to confirm a refund for the money we have paid and to return this to our school bank account. This is in

the region of £9000.00. However, I appreciate that many parents may need the money back for this trip in particular as it is far more expensive than most trips. So I thank you for your patience.

All of the monies paid above will begin to be repaid to parents from Monday 1st June. We will do this via cheque, which will need to be collected from the school office. The admin team will contact parents in the next week to clarify who cheques are payable to, so if this affects you please respond ASAP when it is requested. **PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE OFFICE – WE WILL CONTACT YOU.** We have all of the details and will ensure everything that has been paid is refunded, so please continue to bear with us. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The next few weeks should be very interesting. The Government date of 1st June is a target and there is still some discussion around this. Also schools are able to coordinate this in the way that is safest and most practical for them so each school may do things slightly differently. We will keep you posted.

Take care and stay safe.

Warmest Regards

P Rawlings

Mr P Rawlings
Headteacher