



St Godric's RC VA Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs C Craig

May 12th 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families safe and well. After the announcement by the Prime Minister on Sunday evening, I thought that it was appropriate for me to write to all of our families to give you some idea about what we intend to do in the next few weeks. His announcement was news to us all.

Before I outline the ideas that we have I would like to thank the staff team for all of their hard work and commitment over the last few weeks. With their support we have managed to keep school open to support the children of key workers and provided high quality home learning activities. I would also like to thank parents for all of their kind messages and everything that they are doing to continue their children's education in very difficult circumstances and in most cases, whilst trying to work from home too.

Mr Johnson announced that schools will return for some on Monday 1st June, however this must be carefully planned for to ensure that the children and staff are as safe as they can possibly be. At this point in time it is still about getting children back to school if the scientific advice permits. With further progress the government thinks that schools may be able to begin to open for children in Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 6 from 1st June at the earliest, but this is only if the 5 key Government tests justify this. School will also need to remain open for the children of key workers, who have no alternative childcare arrangements in place. As a school we are liaising with the local authority to see what we can realistically put in place for this first stage.

We predict that there will only be a maximum of 10 children in each class, packed lunches would be provided by the school kitchen to be eaten in class. A one-way system would operate around school and playtimes would be staggered. It is possible that we can only offer the children in Reception Class a morning or afternoon placement. I appreciate that this is not ideal but this would be what we could manage with the constraints of the building and to minimise risk to all.

The government hope that all primary children can come back to school before the summer holidays for a month. This is not a certainty and will depend upon feasibility and the developments made in tackling the virus. It will be kept under constant review. I am sure that you will appreciate that the utmost priority is reducing risk for children and staff.

At the beginning of this week staff met to discuss how we could support our families now. We have taken steps so that over the next two weeks each teacher will ring the children in their class to talk to

the pupils and their parents to see how they are and answer any questions. In addition, we have set up mailboxes so that each class teacher can be contacted if parents or children have any queries and if children want to share any work with their teachers. They will be checked by the class teacher on a daily basis. The email addresses for these mailboxes are:

- Eyfs-stgodrics@durhamlearning.net
- y1-stgodrics@durhamlearning.net
- y2-stgodrics@durhamlearning.net
- y3-stgodrics@durhamlearning.net
- y4-stgodrics@durhamlearning.net
- y5-stgodrics@durhamlearning.net
- y6-stgodrics@durhamlearning.net

We have also been made aware that White Rose Maths now needs a subscription, which we have purchased. The downloadable worksheets are now available on our school website for Y1 – Y6 classes.

I know that this letter does not provide any definite plan, this will come in time once we have read the DfE toolkit which will be published later this week and after we have consulted further with the local authority.

In the meantime, please continue to make the most of your time at home with your children, complete the home learning activities that you can and when you can. As teachers, we expect to continue teaching all of our children from where teaching stopped on March 20th. We appreciate that there will need to be timetable adjustments to accommodate this but we will ensure that all children receive the teaching that they have missed.

Please continue to stay safe and take care.
God bless.

Yours sincerely,
CMCraig

Mrs CM Craig
Headteacher

