



Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Y3, 4 and 5 Parents and Carers,

I do hope that you, your children and families are all keeping safe and well.

I'm sure you were as delighted as ourselves to hear the news last week from the government, that we can now expect a full return of children back to school for a start to the new academic year in September. We have also learnt this morning that social distancing is to be 'scrapped' in schools from September, and so from this, we can start to plan on the assumption that the children will be back to their normal 30 in a class.

There are still many unknowns for schools, which is frustrating for senior leaders as we get ever nearer the end of term. We are expecting guidance from the Department for Education to be published at some point next week. This will give schools the last couple of weeks to refine plans, communicate these to parents and carers before the end of term, then finalise preparations over the summer holidays in order to be September ready. We are really looking forward to a return of some kind of normal for our children, staff, and for you as families too. It can't come soon enough...

### Class 'Touch-Base' Sessions:

In the meantime, we recognise that it has been far too long for the children to be separated from school, their teachers and peers. **We would, therefore, like to provide all of our Y3, 4 and 5 children with the opportunity to come in to school for a 'touch base' session before the end of this term.** The aim of this 9:30-12pm session would be for the children to re-group and connect, to spend time engaged in some whole class activities and games reflecting on what has happened to date, and thinking ahead to the future. We believe that we can make the most of our outside spaces, given the spell of incredible weather we are experiencing, and also our hall space. As such, we are confident we can do these individual class sessions in a safe and socially distant way. Children that are currently in Key Worker School, would come to school as per normal arrangements, and we would take them to their 'touch base' session at 9:30.

In order to fit these 9 sessions in before the end of term, we need to start next week. The sessions will take place from 9:30-12pm, with arrival and pick-up at the main school gate. We would like the children to dust-off their school tops (polo/t-shirt/hoodie) for the morning and wear this with comfy bottoms and trainers. The schedule will be as follows:

Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June:	3H	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July:	4G
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July:	3TS	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July:	5N
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July:	3D	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July:	5P
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July:	4S	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July:	5G
		Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July:	4O

We understand that it may not be possible for all children to come in on these dates depending on your family circumstances, but it would be great to see as many of the children coming together as possible. I will be speaking about these sessions with the children in our live stream whole school assembly tomorrow, **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 11:30am**. The details for this have been posted on the class streams, but for your ease, the link to this assembly is:

<https://stream.meet.google.com/stream/3c070242-f298-4ea9-aaff-664f31a88a01>

### **New classes for September 2020:**

At this time of year, we are looking ahead to September and starting to prepare for the transition to the next year group/class for the children. Our teaching staff and class lists are prepared and finalised, and we will be sharing this information with you by email on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June**. Normally, we would inform the children in school on the same day, but we are going to have to ask you to do that this time round! We will be talking with Key Worker children to inform them of the arrangements.

You will know that **Year 3 and Year 5** pupils remain together as a class and move up to the next year group together. As part of their 'touch base' session over the next two weeks, they will also spend time with their new class teacher for September. This is something that we would ordinarily do in normal times.

### **Year 4 Arrangements:**

For **Year 4** it is slightly different as the three classes are re-organised for the transition in to Upper School. As part of our communication on Monday, you will receive a class list for your child. With the restrictions as they currently stand, we are only able to facilitate a session for the children in their current class grouping this term. Therefore, we would like to provide an afternoon session prior to the start of the autumn term when the Y4, who will be Y5 children in September, come in without the remainder of the school. We will be able to facilitate a more lengthy and relaxed time for the children to come together, connecting as newly formed group with their Y5 teachers in their new building and classrooms. **This will take place on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September between 1:30-3:25pm**. We hope that by informing you now, this will give you enough notice to plan accordingly. It would be fantastic to see as many of the new Y5 children as possible.

Thank you for your continued support and patience at this time. We will continue to communicate further information before the end of term.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Purcell

(Head of School)