

Tuesday 16th June 2020

Re: Coronavirus Covid 19 – UPDATES

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well and staying safe.

Are additional year groups going to be invited back to school?

You may have heard in the news that the Government has announced that schools are not required to invite additional year groups back to school in July as had previously been suggested. They have said that if schools have the classroom space and enough staff, then Headteachers could invite more children back if it is safe to do so but they must still follow the 'bubble' group expectations of no more than 15 children per class.

Unfortunately, I am not able to safely accommodate more children in school as we do not have enough classrooms, teachers or teaching assistants to introduce more year groups. The main barrier to returning is the space within school as all classrooms are in use for teaching bubbles and the remaining two are being used for additional staff rooms to support social distancing.

This means that children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 will not be able to attend school before the summer holidays. However, we will continue to support children at home with our learning activities and recorded lessons.

We are sad that we are not going to be able to see more children in school in the next few weeks but I am sure you will understand why this is not possible.

What will be happening in September?

At the moment, there are no guidelines about September from the Government. As soon as we receive this information, we can start planning and communicating with you all.

Transition plans

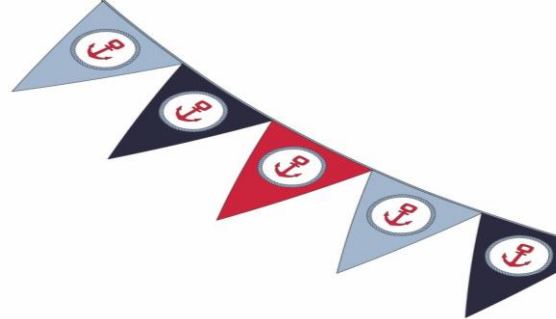
We are currently putting plans together to support all children in their transition into their new year groups. Year 6 teachers are continuing to work closely with secondary schools to support children into Year 7 and we are planning to update the website for new Reception parents very soon.

I will write again to parents very soon with more information about how we are going to support all children to get ready for their new year groups.

As part of this commitment to supporting this important transition time, we have changed our end of term dates to ensure that teachers are able to support this process.

Headteacher - Claire Westcott
Roderick Avenue North, Peacehaven
East Sussex BN10 8BZ
Telephone: 01273 584212
e-mail: office@meridian.e-sussex.sch.uk
web: www.meridianschool.co.uk





New term dates

As mentioned above, the term dates for the children are changing to support transition. The four Reception 'bubble' teaching groups' last day of the summer term will be **Wednesday 15th July**. This will allow us to offer transition meetings for new Reception parents and children in a safe and manageable way before the summer holidays.

All other year groups (Nursery, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6): the last day of the summer term will be **Friday 17th July**.

We have taken two INSET days for Tuesday 21st July and Wednesday 22nd July (that had been planned for terms 5 and 6) and allocated an additional day on Monday 20th July to support teachers in the additional transition plans that we will share really soon.

This additional time will also allow staff to get classrooms ready for September and for EMCOR to have a deep clean.

I will write to you all again soon with more updates about school plans for the next few weeks and hopefully with a plan for September once I know more.

Take care and best wishes to everyone.

Kind regards

Ms. Claire Westcott

