



St. Werburgh's C. E. (A) Primary School

Love to learn, Love God, Love one another

19th May 2020

Dear parents/ carers,

We hope that this letter finds you and your loved ones to be fit and well. As you know, the Government have announced that from 1st June, schools could potentially be re-opening to children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, and remain open to children whose parents are considered to be essential 'Key Workers'.

We are sure that you have either thought about, or seen in the media, the potential difficulties which this causes to schools in terms of staffing and space available for the children whilst keeping them safe. This move presents a great challenge to our lovely school, as our priority is always to keep children and adults safe.

Last week it was lovely to chat with so many of you with children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, to catch-up and also to discuss your thoughts on whether you wish for your child to return at this time, and we, as mentioned, fully respect your decision as we know how tricky it has been for many of you to make. However, it greatly saddens us to let you know that the potential numbers of children in these groups wishing to return, alongside the number of children in our existing Key Worker's children group, is too high for us to accommodate whilst meeting the safety guidelines given to us by the Department for Education (DfE).

For your information, those attending school will be part of a class and will, throughout the day, remain with that class and not be able to interact with others from another class. Classes may be mixed-age and will be much smaller than they usually are and children may not be taught by their usual class teacher, or in a group with their friends. School will not look the same as it previously did.

Due to the physical layout of the school, the distancing required, and the number of staff available to work on site, we find ourselves in an unfortunate situation where we now have a 'full capacity' issue. We appreciate that this may be a strange thing to hear about our lovely school, but to meet the Department for Education guidelines, this is the case.

Holt Lane, Kingsley, Staffordshire, ST10 2BA. Tel: 01538 702355. e-mail: office@st-werburghs.staffs.sch.uk



Kingsley Kingfishers Pre-School

www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk



St. Werburgh's C. E. (A) Primary School

Love to learn, Love God, Love one another

With this in mind, we have to carefully manage the number of children in school each day. Under the current governmental guidelines, we have to re-emphasise that we cannot guarantee a place in school at this time for all who are amongst the eligible groups, which means that your child may not be able to attend school, even if they fall into one of the categories listed by the Government. The number of places available will vary from group-to-group, due to classroom size. **This is not our decision and we are following DfE guidance. We cannot stress to you enough that we do not want this to happen.** For the children whom this effects, we may be able to offer a place in one of our sister schools.

At this stage, **if your child is eligible and you are planning on their return from 1st June**, we need to receive from you a number of pieces of information, so please can you complete the form on the body of the email message and return to us **by no later than 10.00am on Thursday 21st May**. As we need to be able to finalise plans, any forms not returned at this time will be considered to not be requiring a school place from 1st June. We will advise parents who complete the application for a place by 9am Friday.

May we all take this opportunity to thank you for so many supportive messages, and for the funny stories of home learning...and even for the pictures, biscuits, crisps, coffee, chocolate, cards etc! The whole staff team have been really touched by the kindness and the thoughts and concerns for us and also for our families during this period. Thank you from each and every one of us, it means a great deal to us.

The very best wishes to you and your family,

Please, please stay safe.

The St. Werburgh's team

...love one another.

Holt Lane, Kingsley, Staffordshire, ST10 2BA. Tel: 01538 702355. e-mail: office@st-werburghs.staffs.sch.uk



Kingsley Kingfishers Pre-School

www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk