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Dear Parents and Carers

This week it has been lovely to welcome back the Year 6 pupils who choose to return as part of our wider re-opening plan. Although initially apprehensive, the children have gradually settled throughout the week and have adapted incredibly well to the new routines and procedures that we have in place.

Next week, the Year 6s will be in every morning and we hope to extend the length of their days the following week. We also have our key worker 'bubbles' in school each day between 8.45 and 3.30pm – they are well accustomed now the new world of yellow lines, social distancing and handwashing!

We are still planning to try and bring back other groups of children, starting with Year 1 and also thinking carefully about how we approach the transition for moving up to new classes in September. **As soon as any firm plans are in place, we will let you know** but at the moment we are continuing with our cautious approach. I would like to remind parents of children who are currently in the key worker bubbles that their child will not be able to switch to another bubble should their child's year group return. We do not wish to be awkward but we must follow the Health and Safety plans that we have put in place to safeguard children, families and staff.

I am sure that you will be thinking about next year and your child's move into the next year group; we are currently considering how we can best support children and parents during this transition. We would like for all of our children, including those who will be starting Reception in September, to have at least one opportunity to visit their new classroom and see their teacher. If a visit to school cannot be safely organised, we will make use of online technology to provide 'virtual tours' and 'hello' meetings! I will be informing parents who their child's teacher for September will be on 6th July. I have asked each teacher to write their class an introductory letter which will be posted onto the school website on the same day for you and your child to read and each teacher will set a task for the children designed to help them get to know their new class.

I continue to be impressed by the amazing learning that is taking place at home and is posted onto the class blogs, I am sure that much more is also taking place. I would like to congratulate and thank both children and parents for their continued commitment to learning – you are doing an incredible job during such a difficult time. No doubt this positive attitude to learning will help our children immensely when they return to school-based learning, whenever that may be. Please don't forget that we are able to provide paper copies of all learning packs that are posted on the class blogs – just give school a ring and we can make one up for you to collect. We are also here if you need any support or guidance around home learning or any other issues; class teachers and school leaders may be busy supervising 'bubbles' during the day but will respond to any requests as soon as they can.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding; it has been heart-warming to receive so many lovely messages. I look forward to the time when we can be a proper school family again. Take care.

With very best wishes

Mrs Jennifer M Gill
Head Teacher