



2nd July 2020

WPS Update

Good afternoon everyone, I sincerely hope you are all safe and well.

I would like to share with you some important updates and arrangements we have been preparing – in relation to transition at WPS.

The Annual School Report will be sent home tomorrow Friday 3rd July. You will note within it, there is a statement regarding the DFE cancellation of all Primary Assessment due to COVID-19 and school closure. You will know all assessments including Reception Baseline, Y1 and Y2 Phonics Screening Check, Y2 National Assessments, Y4 Mathematics Tables Check and Y6 National Assessments were cancelled and have not taken place this year. Teachers have therefore reported on the last Teacher Assessment data compiled in readiness for the Spring Parent/Carer – Teacher consultation. We hope the additional information contained within the Annual Report for your child will provide you with a fuller and more detailed review of achievements as well as transition thoughts. Reports will be sent via ParentPay email for children not attending School or via pupil post – for the children who are currently able to attend school directly to take home at the end of school.

Class Teachers will be making contact with you via telephone call over the next two weeks to facilitate a conversation, focused on your child's report. This will also be an opportunity to discuss transition and class arrangements for next year.

A current Class Teacher, farewell video message is being prepared for your child to celebrate the year and its conclusion. The video will be uploaded and shared via Tapestry/Google Classroom in line with the home learning platform for each year group in the final week. It is very important to us that we can connect and say a good bye despite not being able to be in the same physical space together. Do please look out for this – tissues at the ready!

Class Transition 2020-2021

The School Closure situation has prevented our normal transition activities which would have included:

- Mixing key transition year groups into new classes,
- Pupil move up day as well as
- Class based work preparing for transition

The decision has been taken to move classes up as they are currently to avoid anxiety and unnecessary worry regarding the start to a new school year in September. We hope that this will be one less thing for the children to worry about particularly given transition activities which have not been able to take place.

We will however, continue with the KS2 rolling Class Teacher strategy. Y3 Teachers will move up with their Class to Year 4, Year 4 Teachers rotate back to Y3. Y5 Teachers will move up to Y6 with their Class and Y6 Teachers rotate back to Y5. This ensures the two-year journey together which we firmly believe supports transition.

Class Teacher arrangements for next year are as follows:

Current Class and Teacher	New Class and Teacher 2020-2021
	RS - Mrs Simpson/Mrs Gould RG – Miss Gadsby
<u>RS – Mrs Simpson/Mrs Gould</u> <u>RG – Miss Gadsby</u>	1S - Mrs Stockdale 1W – Miss Woodliffe
<u>1W – Miss Woodliffe</u> <u>1S – Mrs Stockdale</u>	2G – Mrs Gavaghan 2TC – Mrs Threadgill/Mrs Corner (Thurs+Fri)
<u>2TP – Mrs Threadgill/Mrs Corner</u> <u>2G – Mrs Gavaghan</u>	3K – Mrs Knox 3T – Mrs A Taylor/Mrs L Taylor
<u>3P – Mr Pope</u> <u>3C – Mr Colley</u>	4P – Mr Pope/ Mrs McGrath (Thurs pm +Fri pm) 4C – Mr Colley

4T – Mrs A Taylor/Mrs L Taylor 4K- Mrs Knox	5M – Mr Moody 5RN – Mrs Newnes/Mrs Revell (Thurs+Fri)
5C – Miss Chase 5W – Mrs Walsham/Mrs Abbott	6C – Miss Chase 6A Mrs Revell (Mon am/pm+Tues am) Mrs Abbott

Class Teachers are preparing a transition video message introducing themselves, the curriculum and classroom to your child for the new school year ahead. We hope this will be a positive step to assist with transition and something that can be replayed/revisited during the Summer holiday in preparation for the new school year. These videos will be uploaded and shared via Tapestry/Google Classroom in line with the home learning platform for each year group next week. Please do look out for them!

We continue to wait for Year 6 to Secondary School transition support details from our feeder schools – we will share this as soon as we receive this.

Phased Return

We have now completed our final consultation for requesting a pupil place for Critical Worker/Vulnerable children, Reception, Y1 and Y6 Bubbles. I would like to positively acknowledge how brilliantly the guidance has been followed regarding this – a heartfelt thank you to all.

We have been working under such very different conditions since the COVID-19 school closure announcement. Your assistance has enabled our Risk Assessment to be followed and therefore ensure everyone has been able to access school as safely as possible and in line with Government guidance. Our Risk Assessment drives everything we do and regrettably given the available staff and learning space it has not been possible to invite additional year groups.

It has been wonderful to hear the learning buzz, start to return to WPS. The children have been positive, resilient, creative and well behaved and I am incredibly proud of the way they have responded. As parents/carers you should also feel proud of your child/children and the support and preparation you gave them to successfully navigate this situation so brilliantly. Team WPS Staff have displayed great expertise and professionalism making all of this possible and for this I will be eternally grateful.

Home Learning

We have been keen to revisit our Home Learning offer to review and improve as the school closure has endured. I would like to fully acknowledge and appreciate the demands home learning has placed on families. We know you have gone to extraordinary lengths to provide learning enrichment as well follow WPS learning at home activities. Access to resources has been challenging given the demands on household internet devices. However, we have been impressed by some fantastic work and projects the children have engaged with.

Our move to the learning platforms has been reviewed and further enhanced. The Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize resources have also been available - via the internet and TV platforms complementing WPS provision. As has been seen most recently in Leicester with a local lockdown - the use of our learning platforms could well be required going forward, swiftly minimising the disruption to learning. I think for many of us a Zoom/Teams/Google Chat video meeting has become commonplace and we need to use the best parts of this learning going forward. Hosting live lessons does require very detailed guidance and planning given the raft of safeguarding and acceptable use of technology between home and school. This is something we will be considering further.

We have been able to respond to particular issues affecting families accessing home learning and it is important for school to continue to understand these issues. The school office has been available to work through these issues and Class Teacher follow up by phone has been successful. A further enhancement has involved home learning packs and access to internet devices to support home learning.

Thank you once again for your great support for home learning. Well done to all our children who have worked hard over this time to complete their work.

Guidelines for the summer break and new school year - September 2020-2021

We have been waiting for the detailed guidance from the DFE regarding the summer break and September return.

The DFE have now confirmed:

‘Summer holiday arrangements

The Secretary of State for Education has confirmed that we are not asking schools to open over the summer holidays, and there is no expectation that schools should open for vulnerable children and children of critical workers over this period. Teachers, support staff and school leaders deserve a break, to recharge and rest.’

School will therefore close for the summer break on Friday 17th July.

We hope to be able to share Summer Holiday Camp provision which will be led by Premier Sport based at WPS for 5 weeks of the holiday. There are very clear and strict COVID-19 guidelines for holiday provision to adhere to. Once this is finalised we will signpost the provision.

Today the Secretary of State for Education has released more detailed guidance for the FULL school opening in September. We are working through this guidance currently but the general expectation is that all pupils are expected to return and the Bubble arrangements will expand to allow larger groups of pupils to occupy the same space. I will be working with Mrs Simmons very closely to ensure further information is provided for you before the summer break. It is inevitable that further communication nearer to the start of the autumn term will also be required.

You may find the DFE guidance, document link below of use:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and working with us over this time. The information update is lengthy and I apologise for this, however I hope you will find it useful.

Very best wishes to keep safe and well.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Wilding
Headteacher