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**Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Field**

**“Where learning has no limits”**

**4th June 2020**

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope this e mail finds you and your families well and staying safe. I am as always thinking of you all and longing for the time when staff and I can see you all again – under more relaxed circumstances.

This week we welcomed back some of our Reception / Year 1 / 6 children. Although it is to a very different school than they are used to. The children have adapted remarkably well to all the changes they have needed to deal with and have grasped the idea of social distancing in varying degrees, with the odd reminder!! It always puts a smile on my face when I say to the children about their bubbles and that we must not burst them! All the systems and structures put in place over half term to keep the children and staff safe, at the moment are working well. We are continually reviewing.

Just a reminder that home learning will continue to be sent out but will be done x2 weekly this half term – due to the staff commitments in school.

How strange it is that I am not writing with dates for sports day / swimming gala etc. I had a reminder on my calendar the other day - my plans for whole school beach day and M&M theatre productions visiting us – things which are definitely postponed but NOT cancelled.

**September classes:**

 I thought some children may already have started asking questions as to who their teacher might be / which class they will be in from September. To alleviate any anxiety I wanted to let you know that if school is fully open and operating with no social distancing my plans for classes are as follows:

Hedgehogs Years R & 1 Mrs Barge

Owls Year 2 & 3 Mrs Cook-Paine / Mrs Chapman

Badgers Years 4 & 5 Miss Edwards

Foxes Years 6 Miss Clack

Mrs Dike will continue to cover staffs’ preparation / planning and assessment time (PPA) / SEN / leadership time across the week.

Children going into Yr2/3 will be in Owls class – currently being used for Woodland Wonders breakfast / after school clubs. It is important for those children who are currently in year 2 to have a classroom move as some have been in the same room for x2 years.

Woodland Wonders will move to Rabbits classroom.

My decision for the class organisation has been based purely on numbers of children within cohorts and how this works best for all the children across the school. This has been made under discussion with staff and Governors.

As yet I have not organised which Teaching Assistants will be in which class, but will let you know in the not too distant future.

There will be some changes made to the times of the school day and again I will inform you of these prior to September.

If you have any questions about the classes please do not hesitate to get in touch. Although I am unable to do any in school meetings at present – I can discuss things over the phone or answer an e mail.

As yet we have no further information on bringing back any more year groups to school. As I said in my previous letter this will be virtually impossible for us with the current staffing and social distancing requirements. If anything changes I will inform you.

I will continue to carry out my visits to deliver vouchers and do doorstep visits to some families. If there are any families that would also like a visit for a specific reason – please let me know and I am more than willing to do so.

**Year 6 Transition:**

Having spoken with Paul Nicholson the Head at Gillingham high school – his team are working on some form of transition arrangements for those children going there. A letter will be sent out regarding this at a later date, once they have finalised plans. I have yet to hear from Sturminster High as to what they are planning.

** Headteacher Message**

I must apologise that I have not been as active on Google Classroom as I would have liked – due to my needing to plan our phased return. Now this is done I hope to be able to get back to commenting on all your lovely photos / information on what the children have been getting up to. I will also try and post some more videos!!

As always, if you feel you have something that you need to discuss with me regarding anything to do with school or your child’s learning – please e mail (head@stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk) or phone the school office or mobile. School at present is open x4 days in total but not for all bubbles. Class teachers are available via e mail or if you want to speak with them - please request a call and they will contact you.

Stay safe and remember we are a community, here to support one another during this time.

Fondest wishes

Debbie Field

