



# Flanderwell Primary School

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*“Every child, every minute, every hope.”*



12th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all continuing to stay safe and keep healthy. School is missing you all and things are definitely not the same. We understand how difficult it must be for many of you as you continue to juggle work and home learning and we remain concerned for all of our children, who ordinarily would by now be enjoying the usual summer timetables of sport's days, end of year discos and also end of year assessments. Each and every one of our families make up the heart of our school and, even though some children have returned, we will not be complete until you all return safely. Although we need to listen to government advice, we are very hopeful that we will all be together again in September.

In our letter today, we want to update you about online learning, access to school and plans for next year.

### **Online learning:**

By now, you should hopefully have access at home to the following to help you support your child's learning:

- Work posted on the school website
- Class Dojo to help you especially with communication between home and school
- White Rose Maths, providing you with direct teaching of this term's objectives and an opportunity for teachers to mark answers and assess progress.

From Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, we are hoping to trial the use of video conferencing. Our plan is to set up opportunities for children to join a virtual meeting every Monday afternoon with half of their class and their teacher. This will help teachers in particular focus on the direct teaching of English, introducing the week's learning and hopefully providing more explanation and direction. We hope to use Microsoft Teams to do this, which is safer to use compared to other platforms and can be used on your phone, tablet or computer. In the next week, we will be setting your child up with a Microsoft office account – just for access to Teams not enabled as an email address. Your teacher will then send an invite through Class Dojo, at the end of next week, ready for Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Please sign up to Class DoJo if you haven't already! We will provide further instructions about how to set up the account with the invite. Those attending school will obviously not need to access the online lesson on a Monday afternoon.

### **Wider opening of school**

Currently and in the next few weeks we are open to critical workers, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. You will have received confirmation if your child has a place. However, since the government has now announced that schools will not be opening wider to other year groups, we are very concerned about those children who haven't had the opportunity to attend school at all. In particular, we feel that every child needs a sense of closure, allowing them chance to say goodbye to their class teacher and class friends before the summer holiday. **Because of this, we are asking all families who have accessed school at all this summer to finish the summer slightly earlier – Y6 (10<sup>th</sup> July), children of critical workers, vulnerable pupils, Reception and Y1 on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July.** Then, on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July or Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July, **we will be inviting all remaining children to return for one day to spend the day with their current teacher and class.** We know that this may be a difficult ask for those critical workers who rely on provision, but we would like to appeal to you all to work with us to enable this to happen, for the benefit of all children's mental health and wellbeing. We believe it is crucial to offer this opportunity to all. Further details will be sent out soon to let you know which day your child can return (Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> or Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July). We do respectfully ask that you do not send any thank you cards or presents into teachers at the end of this year as some of you often do, as, according to government safety guidance, we cannot bring or take items between school and home. Thank you!

### **Staffing and classes next year**

Below are the class teachers for next year:

FS1 (Nursery) - Miss Downes – new intake.

FS2 (Reception) - Miss Leivers and Mrs Coleman ( We are in the process of creating the two classes and will let parents know which one their child will join by Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June.

Year 1 - Mrs Brock (Mrs Otter's current class) and Mrs Dilley (Miss Leivers' current class)

Year 2- Mrs Wain (Miss Dilley's current class)  
Year 3 - Mrs Hales (Mrs Wain's current class) and Mrs Gardner (Mrs Brock's current class)  
Year 4 - Mrs Slater (Mrs Hales' current class) and Mr Dawson (Mrs Gardner's current class)  
Year 5 - Mrs Shepherd (Miss Knapp's current class) and Miss Knapp (Mrs Kendrick's current class)  
Year 6- Mrs Albutt (Mrs Catto's current class) and Mrs Catto (Mrs Shepherd's current class)

**There will be a number of changes to our teaching profile from September, too.**

To increase the leadership capacity in our growing school, we are delighted to have recently appointed Mrs Wain as an Assistant Headteacher. She will join Mrs Otter and Mrs Shepherd, also our Assistant Heads, in leading teaching and learning across the school, with an emphasis on the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1.

Mrs Otter will be out of class, full time, from September and will continue in her role as SENDco and Foundation Stage Leader.

We will sadly be losing Mrs Cooper in July as she will be taking up a post at St. Albans. She has been a fabulous asset at Flanderwell and we will miss her greatly. We wish her all the very best in her future career.

We are delighted to be able to have Mrs Slater back in school. She will be joining the Y4 team with Mr Dawson, who will return to Flanderwell in September.

As you will be aware, Mrs Cartledge and Mrs Kendrick are both expecting new arrivals! They will be working alongside classes in September, before taking maternity leave.

**A message from Mrs Adair:**

"I have worked at Flanderwell Primary School since 2013 as Executive Headteacher, and throughout that time had the very great pleasure of working alongside our fantastic staff team to drive change and improvement. From this September, I will be changing my role at the school and will no longer be your Executive Headteacher, but instead I am leaving to focus on my role as Head of School Improvement for our trust, DSAT. I will still play a key role in the school as I support Flanderwell to continue to make improvements - but of course it will feel different. Mrs Armitage continues to lead you all as your Headteacher, and with her you are in very safe hands! I have loved every minute and it has been such a privilege to be part of your children's lives. Thank you everyone."

We do hope that this letter has explained some of the changes we are making and given you hope that eventually we will have some sort of normality! As always, please continue to contact us if you have further questions either through Class Dojo or through the school email.

All the best,

Alison Adair  
Executive Headteacher

Julie Armitage  
Headteacher