



9<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Families

I hope that you are all well and still managing to snatch some time outdoors in between the showers.



It has been fabulous to welcome back some Year Six pupils into school this week. We have also enjoyed keeping in touch with our Year Sixes at home when they have joined us for virtual lessons throughout the week. They have settled back into a learning regime very quickly and all seem to be very happy to be back in school – albeit a different type of school to the one they attended in the Winter!

If the re-integration of Year Six pupils is successful and nationally we are also heading in the right direction, then we would consider opening up some places for a group of Year Five pupils to return. We do not currently have the capacity for all Year Five pupils to return and so we would like to canvas opinion from our Year Five families this week. Please can you contact the school office on 01920 485152 if you have strong feelings either way on this potential reintegration. If you are happy to continue home learning and do not yet want your child to return to school then please let us know. Equally, if you would like your child to be considered for a place in the Year Five return group please let us know.

We are continuing to support pupils and families with our weekly zoom lessons. It is great to see so many families still engaging with these lessons and is always such a pleasure to see our pupils taking part. The schedule for the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> June is as follows;

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Swifts 10.00  
Penguins 10.30  
Robins 11.00  
Kestrels 11.30  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June – Puffins – 10.00  
Toucans – 10.30  
Owls – 11.00  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June - Eagles 10.00  
Kingfishers -10.30

You will receive an invitation later this week.

There are a few new additions to our school web site today. On our home learning page you will find our new folder of resources with a SCIENCE theme. There are some excellent resources within this file. A big thank you to our staff team who have put these resources together for us. We are having a science focus in school with the pupils in school this week and would invite

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you to make this the focus of your learning at home this week and next. As always we would love to receive photos of your 'experiments' and activities at home. Please send them to the usual address; [homelearning@middleton.herts.sch.uk](mailto:homelearning@middleton.herts.sch.uk) .

I will also draw your attention to the following link;

<http://middleton.herts.sch.uk/whats-new-at-middleton-school/> You can also find this at the bottom of our home page on the website. It is a video of Middleton School over the past week; the people working and activities that have been happening during the week. It may help your child and family to remain 'in touch' with our community.

I am aware that during these unusual times children ( and adults!) are spending a lot more time online or in front of a range of screens! It is always worth reminding ourselves of the importance of online safety. Sadly, unscrupulous individuals do not take a break during lockdown life and the young and vulnerable will still be preyed upon. With today's letter there is an attachment which reminds us of some key pointers.



The  website also has a wide selection of resources available on the subject of online safety that are accessible for Primary age children.

Remember that we have initiated a Survey Monkey for parents to feedback to us what they have found helpful and how we may be of assistance to families in the coming weeks. It is really helpful if parents can spare a few minutes to complete it for us. It should not take any longer than five minutes. The link is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3LPL23K>

We are still conducting EHCP reviews with families and if you have not yet had your review then you will hear from us over the next week so that we can schedule a convenient date.

You should continue to receive welfare telephone calls from your child's class teacher. If you have any concerns or questions please do share them during this call.

If you have changed your personal details in the last 12 weeks ( eg phone number or email address) please let the school office know so that we can ensure we remain in regular contact with you.

We continue to watch closely the national picture and refer to government guidance. As I explained in the last letter, the guidance for special schools differs greatly to that for mainstream schools. As you can imagine, the issues and concerns in a school such as ours differ to those in the mainstream setting. The DFE are aware that for pupils with additional needs, the process will need to be tailored and there must be a high regard for health and safety and pupil well being. We will need to consider transition arrangements for all of our pupils across the school and this is a subject which we will address in future communication.

For the time being I will leave you with our 'welcome back to school' banner and thank you all once again for your overwhelming support and understanding.

Look after yourselves



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