



10th July 2020

Dear Families

I hope that this letter finds you all well and gearing up ready for a sunnier weekend!

This week will see our final set of Zoom Virtual lessons. This will be an opportunity for each class to say 'Good bye' to each other and celebrate the end of term and 'moving on'. I hope that your child will be able to attend as I think it will be an important part of the process in gaining closure on their old class and thinking about what next year will hold for them. You will receive an email invitation with the access codes. The sessions are scheduled as follows;

Monday 13th July- 11.00 Kestrels
3.30 Eagles

Tuesday 14th July - 10.00 Penguins

Wednesday 15th July – 10.30 Kingfishers
3.30 Swifts

Friday 17th July – 10.00 Robins
10.45 Owls
11.30 Toucans
2.00 Puffins

Yesterday we had a day filled with mixed emotions as we said Goodbye to our Year Six pupils and also two children from Middle School. In addition we bade farewell to Miss Crumpton and Mrs. Goodall as they leave us at the end of this term. There were some tears, and some laughter and a huge well of pride as we waved our pupils on their way!



Thank you to our Year Six pupils who have provided us with such amazing memories and experiences over the years and to their families who support the school so ably. Good luck with your secondary education and we send you our love.

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Transition Days;

Next week sees the start of pupils returning to school to experience transition days in their new classrooms. Thank you to those families who contacted the school to inform us if your child will be attending. If you requested transport then this has been booked for you. Your child will need a packed lunch, drink, snack and hopefully a sun hat. Please apply sun cream before leaving home if required. The school day runs from 9.00 until 3.00 if you are transporting yourselves. You will be directed onto the school playground and NOT through the front of the school. Due to the current restrictions with COVID19 we will not be able to accommodate pupils who are not already booked into these days. I must also point out that at present, we are unable to support pupils via close personal contact and so behaviour management may potentially become an issue for some pupils. We will apply a range of strategies to deal with challenging behaviour but may need to contact a family to collect a child if the health and safety of others is compromised. Please ensure that you are contactable on the days when your child is attending school.

The school is looking quite different at present and systems and routines will have altered for pupils. You may find it helpful to view the video on our website about 'what to expect when you come to school' before your child comes in for their transition day. The following link will take you to the video;

<http://middleton.herts.sch.uk/what-to-expect-when-you-come-to-school/>

Home Learning;

We hope you have enjoyed getting 'Out and About' and we are pleased to announce the launch of our new (and final) topic 'Staying Healthy'. <http://middleton.herts.sch.uk/pupils/staying-healthy/> You will also find this file on the home learning page of our website. The file is subdivided into a range of topics and we have also addressed mental health needs within these activities. In addition one of our TAs has recommended some excellent resources on the following website; Place2be.org.uk. Please do explore the range of activities and continue the excellent home learning activities that we know our families have been pursuing throughout this pandemic.

Kingfisher Klub;

Thank you to those parents who have requested places at our holiday club. It has been over subscribed but we have tried to offer something to all families who made a request. Details will be sent out to families next week.

September 2020;

This week we have been issued with new guidance to prepare us for the re-opening of special schools in September. We have a lot of work to do within school but we are very excited at the prospect of welcoming all of our pupils back to school. We are aware that for many pupils, this may be a challenging step, as they will have been out of school for up to six months. With this in mind we are proposing a staggered return to school the first week of term. Tuesday 1st September is an INSET Day. We will then invite one class from each department to return for one day that week. This will allow pupils to 'get to grips' with school life without being surrounded by 95 other pupils and an opportunity to learn the new rules and systems before meeting as a whole school on Monday 7th September.

Wednesday 2nd Sept – Robins, Toucans and Eagles classes will be in school.

Thursday 3rd September – Penguins, Puffins and Kingfishers classes will be in school.

Friday 4th September – Owls, Swifts and Kestrels classes will be in school.

More information regarding school life in September will follow. In the mean time, attached to this letter is a list of term dates for next year which may assist families with their holiday planning. You will note that we are taking a **two week half term break in May/ June**.

Finally, can I wish you all a lovely weekend with a promised return of some sun! We are looking forward to meeting more children next week and also saying 'Hello' to twenty new pupils!

Kind Regards

Debbie Hartley

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