



Harwell Community Primary School

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Dear Parents,

I hope you and your loved ones continue to stay safe and well.

Where to start?

I'm sure like me, many of you will have watched the Prime Minister's address to the nation yesterday evening.

You will have heard the Prime Minister indicating that the government believes it may be in a position to implement a phased re-opening of schools from 1 June, starting with pupils in Foundation, Year one and Year six. This is part of the government's conditional plan which it says will remain under regular review.

To be clear, all of us want to get more pupils back into school as soon as it is safe to do so. We do not want to see classrooms empty for a day longer than they need to be.

However, as any school leader will tell you, the first priority has to be the safety of everyone in the school community. Given the current social distancing guidelines, it would appear unlikely that we would be able to have a whole class in at any one time.

However, we heard the announcement at the same time as you, with no prior information. You will no doubt have lots of questions that we are unfortunately unable to answer until we receive more information from the Department For Education and Oxfordshire Local Education Authority.

In the short-term, nothing has changed and we will provide further information in the coming days and weeks once we are able to do so.

Parent Packs for each class for this week are on the website and new ones for next week will be added on Friday.

On a completely different note, last week was a successful week for Google Meets. They have been a resounding success, thank you for bearing with us with any technical issues you may have faced. It was lovely to see so many children joining and sharing their obvious excitement to see each other and staff.

We will be continuing these 'meets' and information will be in the google classrooms in advance of the times.

In other news, the school continues to carry out long-existing building plans, in line with guidance. We had scheduled to have a new front door over Easter but those plans were understandably put on hold. We have now been able to restart those with very careful social distancing. The work will hopefully be carried out later this week.

I hope to have some more news for you soon.

In the meantime, warm regards and stay safe.

Bryn Gibson

Headteacher