



27 March 2020

Dear Parents

CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING NO 5

This has been a very busy term and I am very proud of how the school community has pulled together during this time of crisis. The children have been amazing and have coped with enormous change and uncertainty with a calmness that many adults have failed to achieve. I am also very grateful to the parents who have been so encouraging and positive and I thank you for your support during this difficult time.

I would, however, like to take a moment to thank my staff. I am incredibly proud of all that they have achieved and with the way that they have conducted themselves. In addition to nearly completing the normal busy term, we also had a very successful Inspection, we have had to rapidly learn new teaching methods and we have familiarised ourselves with a new technology platform. This has been a huge undertaking and the staff have taken it in their stride. You are all amazing, thank you!

Impact of Coronavirus on the school site

- We have essentially closed the school site, and completed a deep clean of all the buildings
- The Nursery building remains open to children of Key Workers. A classroom has been set up in one of the rooms with appropriately sized table and chairs, etc, for the older children
- We have reduced the staff on site to an absolute minimum with only essential maintenance personnel remaining
- The School Office is not staffed and all communication will need to be by email at: office@crickladedemanor.com

Parental expectations of staff during the Easter Holiday

During this holiday period, I wanted to outline what parents' expectations of staff should be.

- Many staff continue to be in school running Holiday Club for children of Key Workers. Several independent schools have chosen to ignore the Government's request to stay open and I am grateful to them for volunteering
- I have advised staff that they should try and take dedicated time off now to recharge so that they are refreshed and ready to give their all next term
- Staff are not expected to respond to emails or use Microsoft Teams during the Easter Holidays

Educational provision during the Easter holidays

- The teachers have produced an additional week of planning for English and Maths which parents can use if they wish - this work will already be available on Teams or will be uploaded before Monday morning
- If parents are looking for more educational activities, children could complete more of the topic work grid available on Teams
- Key worker children will be able to attend a 'Holiday Club' if required. Attendance will continue to be by booking only, through the weekly attendance form. Parents should not assume we are open - if no bookings are made, then the Holiday Club will not be open that day

- Staff will be taking part in online training during the 3rd week and planning a revised curriculum, which can be delivered via remote learning. Staff may choose to re-engage with emails and Teams during this time in anticipation of the term starting

Parent survey

To help with our planning and training programme for staff, please could I ask parents to complete the attached Microsoft Form relating to your child's remote learning experience so far. Whilst there are planned changes for the Phase 2 learning, insight from parents at this point would be very helpful. Please could responses be in by Monday 30 March by 4.00pm. [Click here for the Form](#)

Advice for parents

Whilst I fully appreciate that everyone's family routine is different, I advise that parents try to keep some type of morning routine going during the Easter holiday. It would be beneficial for the children to complete some type of activity such as MangaHigh, practice reading and spelling the KS1 and KS2 Key words or some other learning. Additionally, children should continue to read every day. This will keep them engaged in learning and will help with getting back into a routine when they have to return to home learning next term.

Barley Barrett

Whilst the children must be missing school, I am conscious that most of all they must be missing Barley. Below are two photos of Barley enjoying 'break time' on the trampoline and out for a walk yesterday afternoon. Please feel free to let the children know that he is doing just fine!



With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Guy Barrett'.

Guy Barrett
Headmaster