July 14th 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

It is now the last week of a very strange Summer Term! For those in school we have made the best of our circumstances but have obviously not been able to enjoy the usual end of term activities. For those at home we have continued to try to keep in touch with you all and hope that we can all be together again soon! Everyone has coped amazingly well! The pupils in school have adapted to a school that is very different and we are hearing that many pupils are doing exciting things at home.

In September we have made plans to reopen for the majority of pupils. The government expectation is that all pupils will return to school in September unless there is specific advice relating to a serious medical issue. Once again we have worked hard to organise the school for September so that children can be taught safely across the school site. We have split the school into three ‘bubbles’. Lower School which will be all the classes in the main classroom block-Butterflies, Bees, Puffins, Foxes, Owls , Rabbits and Hedgehogs, Upper School which will be Seniors 1-4 and the 6th Form who will be their own ‘bubble’ on the Driffield School site. Pupils will not move between the ‘bubbles’, some staff will move across ‘bubbles’ but strict protocols will be observed. The idea of the bubbles is to minimise contact between different pupils and staff. It is very important that all parents work with us to reduce the risk of infection in school. Please do not send your child into school if they have any of the following symptoms:

* Temperature
* Persistent cough
* Loss of smell/taste

Any child or student arriving in school with any of the above will be immediately isolated until they can be collected from the premises.

Further guidance on what to do if your child or anyone in your family presents with symptoms can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementingprotective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

In the event of a confirmed case of COVID19 in the school the pupils and staff in that ‘bubble’ will need to stay at home for 14 days. If the need arises we will also be sharing relevant contact information with the NHS Track and Trace system. The privacy notice will be updated to reflect this. Further information can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/maintaining-records-of-staff-customers-and-visitors-to-support-nhs-test-and-trace>

Unfortunately, as it stands at the moment we will not be able to welcome parents into school for the Star of the Week assembly as visitors to school have to be kept to an absolute minimum. However, as soon as we can we hope to see you all back in school.

We will welcome pupils back into school on Tuesday September 8th. All teachers will be contacting you with the details of your child/student’s new class team and any other details you need to know about the new term. We have enclosed the term dates for the new academic year. Please note there has been a change to the training day in October which will now be Friday 23rd October 2020, when the school will be closed to pupils.

One very important reminder to all parents is that in line with all other maintained schools we are **‘a nut free school’.** Next year this will be very important to remember as a new pupil is starting with us who has a severe nut allergy. This applies not only to our school kitchen which is always ‘nut free’ but to packed lunches and snacks brought in from home. Due to the importance of maintaining the safety of this pupil, staff will be checking all packed lunches and any items containing nuts will be removed.

We are all looking forward to September and the start of the new term. Sadly, next term will be my last at Kings Mill as I have made the decision to retire at the end of the Christmas term but I am hoping that my last term can see us returning to some degree of normality.

The Residence will be open over the summer apart from the usual break for the first two weeks in August.

Please do remember the ‘School Jotter’ app as the main means of communication as we will be adding things over the summer and also do check the Kings Mill School website. If you haven’t downloaded the app please do so as we will continue to use it to update you about the current situation. It is also a good way to keep up to date with what is going on in school.

Thank you all once again for your cooperation and support during these difficult times. I do hope that some of you will be able to enjoy a break over the summer and I look forward to seeing you all in the new term.

Kind regards



Gail Lawton

Headteacher