

Village Lane Whitley Warrington WA4 4HO

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Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be acutely aware, the Government have been releasing updates regarding Covid-19, the latest of which has ordered all schools to shut their doors as of this afternoon at 3:10pm, except for pupils they consider to be vulnerable or those who have parents who are considered 'key workers'. They have also announced that statutory examinations for 2020 have been cancelled. This includes the Year I phonics check and Year 2 phonic re-take, the Year 4 multiplication test and both the KSI (Year 2) and KS2 (Year 6) SATs. Whilst closed, we will continue to contact families via ParentPay and will access emails. Currently, there is no indication as to how long these closures are going to last for, as our country enters into uncertain times.

We have been planning for a couple of weeks how to ensure our pupils can still access appropriate learning from home, and you will hopefully all, by now, have received instructions for accessing seesaw, along with the many resources and links that are on our website pages. This work and these ideas will continue to be updated and amended by the teachers, as they continue to work from home. However, given the circumstances for all of us, particularly those staff who are also affected by their own children's school closures, this teacher support will look very different and come at different times than our usual working hours. If you have not received this information due to already being self-isolated, or if you have been unable to collect your learning packs, please let Mr David know via email (see below) as soon as possible, so that we can rectify this issue.

Having spoken to many families over the past 2 days, we can now confirm that Whitley will be shut as of Monday, as we do not have need within our community to stay open. If the circumstances of our key worker families or our pupils with EHCPs or those who fall into the Government's 'vulnerable' criteria, change during the closure period, please email me immediately and I will ensure we support you in finding suitable childcare for your children.

Those pupils who are entitled to free school meal (excluding the Reception & KSI universal free school meals), will still be entitled to a free lunch each day during the closure. We will be in touch directly with these families individually to arrange specifics with you.

We would like to communicate our support and best wishes to everyone within the Whitley community as we enter such challenging and unprecedented times. Stay safe and healthy. We will miss having our pupils with us every day and hope that the near future does not prove too challenging.

If you have any questions or concerns, or need anything at all, please don't hesitate to contact me or Mr David and we will do our best to support you in any way we can <a href="mailto:head@acornswhitlyefed.cheshire.sch.uk">head@acornswhitlyefed.cheshire.sch.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:rdavid@acornswhitleyfed.cheshire.sch.uk">rdavid@acornswhitleyfed.cheshire.sch.uk</a>

Kind regards,

Hannah & Russell

Mrs H. Broom & Mr R David

Executive Headteacher & Head of School

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