



Dear Parent/Carer

9 July 2020

IEB Update

The IEB hopes that this letter finds you all well during these increasingly difficult and uncertain times. We understand how hard lockdown has been for parents and carers and we really do appreciate your involvement in learning participation and also in recent events such as the virtual school sports day and online assemblies.

It is important that you know that things will still look very different in school when the children return in September. Ms Butler and the staff team are preparing for the full opening of the school to all pupils, but we want you to be aware that, as when some children were allowed to return last month, statutory guidance from the Government and advice from the Local Authority was often sent to school leaders very late and followed by several further changes to this guidance and advice. Therefore, Ms Butler will share more detail nearer the time.

Please bear with us as there continues to be uncertainty because the virus is still with us and there is every indication it will be for some time to come. That said it's obvious from your approach and support to your children and the school, we will not be beaten!

The IEB are pleased to know that if there is another lockdown, in order to be as well prepared as possible, Ms Butler and the staff team are putting a plan in place for home learning which will involve the use of Google Classroom. Home learning would not have worked so well had it not been for the enthusiastic approach of the children who sent in their learning projects; it was lovely for the IEB to have seen so many children's letters to teachers received during lockdown; they really boosted morale.

We also want to thank you as you become more familiar with the whole school approach to using both buildings differently and moving away from the family KS1 and KS2. This has been done to make the most of the space available, to support on-going social distancing and to enhance learning opportunities for the children.

More news on the naming of the buildings soon!

There are more exciting developments planned including the new outdoor learning equipment, our new reading areas in all classrooms and the phased introduction of increased technology in all learning.

Those children who joined us in June have experienced a whole new approach including at first eating their packed lunch in the classroom, but they were lucky enough to get hot food from Angela our School Cook. She has completely changed how she works to provide the children with a daily take away service - still producing amazing food in challenging times. This has meant that we have been able to provide daily hot meals when lots of schools have offered sandwiches only. Thank you Angela!

Sadly it's time to say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils who have not had the last year in school as they would have wanted. We wish you well as you move into the next chapter of your learning journey.

It remains only to share with you our appreciation of the hard work of the staff and to thank you as parents and carers for all your support to the school and your efforts to keep your children enjoying their involvement in their learning and school activities over the past few months.

Keep well and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

Interim Executive Board of Chester Le Street C.E. Primary School

A banner with a dark green background on the left side featuring a stylized virus particle. The text 'coronavirus advice' is written in white. On the right side, there is a white background with blue text providing government advice.

**coronavirus
advice**

Follow the government's advice to

- Stay at home
- Only go outside for food, health reasons or essential work
- Stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home

For more information visit www.durham.gov.uk/coronavirus