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Headteacher Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

At this stage, our plan for week commencing June 15th, is to have both Bubble A and Bubble B in F1, F2, Year 1 and Year in school from Monday to Thursday. Friday will be used for teacher planning and preparation time and allow us to give the school a deep clean.

Please note that this will not affect the Keyworker / Vulnerable children offer that is currently in place.

In addition, the Secretary of State for Education gave a speech in the House of Commons today. His message, I think, can be summarised in three key bullet points:

- Schools should bring back more children if they can before Summer, however *all* children returning is no longer part of the government's current guidance.
- Schools need to come up with a plan so children can return to school in September.
- Exams *will* take place next year. (Although he didn't mention SATs / Phonics, I would imagine they are included in his list.)

In relation to the first bullet point, our plan is to explore the potential of bringing back an additional year group and we have identified Year 5 as our priority. Having missed a large section of their Year 5 schooling and only having one year left of primary education remaining, I think it is right that any additional capacity we are able to create is assigned to this year group in the first instance.

We will send a separate email over the next couple of days to survey our year 5 families. Once we know how many families plan to take up the offer, we can allocate the staff we need to safely create the new bubbles.

I understand that parents in other year groups may be keen to have their children return to school, but in order to do this safely I have to carefully manage the staffing arrangement in order to minimise any risks of transmission. Whilst our numbers are currently quite low, we have built in the capacity to increase the numbers without any of the current bubbles being affected. This has used a lot of staff, so that the children and adults we have in school are as safe as they can be.

Under the current guidance of *trying* to keep social distancing measures in place and a maximum group size of 15, this will limit the amount of additional year groups we can invite back, as we simply do not have the adults to do so.

As always, I will keep you updated as things progress.

Best wishes,

Matt Hickey

Headteacher