Good Afternoon Everyone,

Thank you to everyone who has managed so well dropping off and picking up their children in the rain, following the one way system, and remembering the start and end of day times. We are delighted with how well the systems in school are working and how positively the children have responded to all the new routines.

As you will have heard the Government have rather confused things this week. It is fantastic that they have said that we can start opening to more children but with all the restrictions in place this is not easy to do. As we open more bubbles the children will have to share cloakrooms and toilets. We are therefore making sure that we are confident that we can manage this without putting the staff and children at risk before we open up any more bubbles.

We already have much higher numbers of children returning than lots of schools, and whilst we think it is right that we do this, we do want it to be safe. The teachers are all really keen to be back in with their classes and to get things back on track ready for a flying start in September. We have been clearing spaces in school to create teaching areas for small group and 1 to 1 interventions, and preparing resources to ensure we are able to provide a ‘catch up’ curriculum to make up any missed learning.

A huge part of this is making sure that the children are confident to come back to school, that they know and understand the routines in school which may look somewhat different to when they were last in, and that they are able to socialise and develop those positive relationships that make school a great place to be. We are clear, therefore, that we want to offer the opportunity for all children - although not altogether - to come back to school for some time, however small, before the summer break.

We will share our plan for the rest of term with you as soon as it is finalised and we have discussed it with staff. In the meantime if your child is in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 and would like to return to school please let us know. We will fit in as many children as we can safely.

As always we have been impressed with the quality and quantity of work being done through our Tapestry School. I know it is all wearing thin and that we are all starting to feel a little jaded but try to keep going. You are all doing an amazing job. We are truly staggered at the positive response and attitude you have all had to teaching. Thank you all.

Remember if you need help but can’t contact school, the Department for Education helpline for parents home-schooling their children, called **Starline**, is open 6 days a week, covering all areas of the curriculum and all age ranges. The number is 0330 313 9162. Calls are charged at local rate.

Additionally, you can refer to the Home-Schooling guidance for parents from the Department of Education which can be found through this link <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>