

CHURCH WALK
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**WOODLANDS
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Dear parents and carers

I hope you and your family are keeping well in these difficult times. I would like to thank you for the continued support you have given your children throughout the lockdown so far. I am in no doubt how challenging home learning has been and am very impressed with the level of work that has been returned to the teachers, along with the amazing variety of activities we have seen in the videos and pictures appearing on Dojo. I appreciate the hard work, perseverance and resilience shown by yourselves and the children. We reached a staggering 93% of children using Teams, and almost 100% of our EYFS parents have been uploading evidence of wonderful activities on to Tapestry.

It is important to all of us here that you are all safe and well. We know how the children are doing by the work being returned and the chat on Teams, and a lot of you talk to the teachers using Dojo. Please ensure that you get in touch with the class teachers once a week so we know all is well. I hope you feel that you and your child are being well supported during this time, if there is any other way we can support you or your child, please ask your class teacher or myself using the email address enquiries@woodlandsprimaryacademy.org.uk.

We continue to be open every day for the children of key workers, those who are vulnerable or have an EHCP. We are getting between 16 and 25 children a day in school, ranging from nursery to year 6. If you are a key worker and need your child to start coming into school, please email Bev using the above email address, or send her a message on Edulink.



In spite of the lockdown we have been busy at school on a number of fronts. Our teachers have been concentrating on working out what works best for our pupils to support their distance learning. We ran the VE day week as a topic week, giving you the opportunity to complete work together as a family, rather than trying to find the time and the resources to teach several children at several different stages. Listening to the feedback, some of you really appreciated it, and some prefer a more structured approach. So, we will continue with a more structured approach for most weeks, and have a topic week once a month. Our next one starts on Monday, 1 June and will be a trust wide topic week called 'Our World', following on from the 'Our Town' topic we did in the autumn term.

In school there have also been lots of work going on. Our site team have been hard at work making improvements. We have thoroughly deep cleaned every area of the school and completed some redecoration. We have renovated the lighting throughout the building replacing the old fittings with brighter and more efficient LED lighting, greatly improving the learning environment. The EYFS team have worked hard in the nursery, rearranging the rooms and furniture. They have improved the flow between nursery and reception, which will help during transition times, and the nursery feels even more part of the school.

The government has recently announced steps to move towards the end of lockdown. One step is that they are hoping nursery, reception, year 1 and year 6 children can return to school on the 1st June. The guidance we have had is:

- they will be in small groups,
- PPE will not be required,
- start and finish times may be staggered
- parents will not be fined if they do not wish to send their children into school at this time.

It is not definite that this will happen but plans are being drawn up and risk assessments looked into.



When we have more details about the return to school, in whatever form that will be, I will be in touch and will share with you full details of the steps we will be taking to assure everyone's health and safety and also get settled into some new and some familiar school routines.

Yours faithfully

V Simmons

Miss Vicky Simmons

Headteacher