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Dear Year 3 and Year 4 Parents/Carers

In-School Provision for Year 3 and Year 4 children

We are very much aware of the fact that Year 3 and Year 4 children are not included in our regular in-school learning provision. As a leadership team we have looked at many ways of having all our children in, e.g. having Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 in on a rotation. However, by following the DfE guidance supplied to us we feel that this is not the correct thing to do for our school. The main issue, as we understand it from the guidance, is preserving the integrity of 'bubbles', and ensuring that adults are not moving between different groups during a day/week or from one week to the next. This exposes staff to more children, and children to more staff. It's a very tricky situation to plan correctly for, especially as lockdown and social distancing measures are gradually falling away in society as a whole.

The current DfE guidance states that:

- "It is still important to reduce contact between people as much as possible, so children, young people and staff where possible, should only mix in a small, consistent group and that small group should stay away from other people and groups."
- "Schools should not plan on the basis of a rota system, either daily or weekly ..."
- It also says that getting YR, Year 1 and Year 6 is a main priority, and staff need to be redeployed from other year groups to make it happen. This of course excludes them from then teaching both Year 6 and (for example) Year 4 if a school decides to bring both year groups into school on different days or different weeks.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-primary-schools> (the current version).

However the DfE guidance also encourages schools to put in place opportunities for 'face-to-face' sessions in school for all children if at all possible. We have put together a plan for how this can happen between now and the end of term for Year 3 and Year 4. These are as follows:

(i) Sports Day events

Year 3 : Thursday 2nd July (9.30am to 11.30am)

Year 4 : Thursday 2nd July (2.00pm to 4.00pm)

These will be fun, accessible and safe-distanced. We will probably still run them as an inter-House competition. The children will be kept in bubbles. More details to follow in due course.

(ii) Transition Events / Bump Up Days

School finishes for Year 6 on Friday 17th July. We will be devoting the final three days of term (Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd July) to final sessions with the current Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 teachers (one morning or afternoon) and one session with their September 2020 teacher (one morning or afternoon).

We will also be holding transition sessions for our September 2020 Year 3 cohort.

(iii) Field Bubble Learning

In an attempt to maximise the time that Year 3 and Year 4 children can be in school, whilst also bearing in mind DfE guidance and the school resources at our disposal, we are introducing 'Field Bubble Learning' for Year 3 and Year 4. Please read below and see what you think.

- We will operate 4 bubbles of 15 children per morning: 10am – 11am ; 11am – 12pm ; 12pm – 1pm ; 1pm – 2pm.
- Year 3 will come in on Thursdays – 25th June, 9th July, 16th July.
- Year 4 will come in on Fridays – 26th June, 3rd July, 10th July, 17th July.
- We will inform you as to which 'Field Bubble' your child has been allocated to.
- All sessions will be on the school field.
- Children will be dropped off at the school gate, and collected from the Brighton Road small gate.
- Each session will feature 30 mins of English and 30 mins of maths (arithmetic).

- The work covered will not directly match the set Home Learning.
- Children will need to bring their own exercise book and pencil case.
- Children should also bring their own appropriate sized bath towel or small blanket (safe-distancing marker)
- The sessions will be led by two of our LSA team - Mrs Banks and Mrs Whitmore. Mrs Banks is a trained primary class teacher. Mrs Barker and I will lead the 1pm to 2pm sessions.
- The children may not see their class teacher but we will try and let this happen.
- We will set aside a toilet for the 'Field Bubble' children to use but hopefully they will be able to hang on for the hour.
- If it rains we will need to cancel a session (we'll notify you via the school office).

Please note:

Mrs Banks and Mrs Whitmore will be working in the Year 5 bubbles on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We are confident that they not compromising their health or that of the Year 3, Year 4 or Year 5 children as

(a) the Year 3 and Year 4 'Field Bubbles' are on the field, and the risk of spread is much lower outdoors,

(b) they will maintain a safe distance from each child,

(c) the teaching will be more expositional than one-to-one discussion,

(d) as the 'Field Bubbles' are outside we will let Year 3 and Year 4 from the Key Worker Bubbles join their class mates in the 'Field Bubbles'.

Please follow the following links to indicate whether your child will be joining us for 'Field Bubble Learning':

Year 4 Field Bubble survey : <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9RNGCG3>

Year 3 Field Bubble survey : <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9TGYMJG>

If you have any questions before making a decision please send an email to myself or Mrs Barker via the school office. Thank you.

We look forward to seeing your child back in school before the summer break, albeit for a short period of time.

Yours faithfully



Richard Catchpole
Headteacher

Cherish + Challenge