

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

## **END OF TERM NEWSLETTER**

As we move into the final weeks of the summer term we are writing to you for the final time this year.

### **The current situation**

As you are aware HPP schools followed DFE and local authority guidance and completed a detailed risk assessment. Based on this risk assessment on the 1st June we readmitted children on a part time basis to Nursery, Reception, year 1 and year 6 in bubbles of no more than 15. In addition, the schools are now both running three groups of children classed as vulnerable and children of critical workers. The Secretary of State for Education has now released further guidance allowing us, **whilst maintaining the current year groups in school**, to readmit more pupils **if** we have the capacity and the staff to do so safely. HISN was already at capacity. HJS was able to allow year 5 pupils to re-join as they had space and staff. In both schools, all teachers and classrooms are now being used fully. Phone calls from class teachers will cease this week, with the exception of our most vulnerable pupils.

We have now begun our transition visits for year 2 pupils on Fridays. Year 3 and 4 visits are scheduled next week, which we know will help the children feel excited about their return in September.

We are aware of the disappointment some parents are feeling that their child has not returned to school this year. While we understand this disappointment, both the Executive Leadership Team and Governors believe it would be unwise to go against the clear DFE and Local Authority guidance in this regard. Allowing further children to return to school would place HPP in a very difficult position should a case of Covid 19 occur.

### **The new academic year**

We know from speaking with many parents that September is uppermost in their minds, and having some clarity around those first few weeks is important. DFE guidance for September is being made available to schools but will undoubtedly continue to be updated throughout August. In order to provide you with some certainty we have planned an appropriate phased transition for all children who are currently in school. We will update you at the beginning of September when finer details become more certain, which will include information regarding drop off, pick up, school meals and afterschool clubs.

All pupils will need to attend school in the new term in line with our attendance policy and children will need to wear a full school uniform.

### **HISN**

#### **New nursery and reception for September**

Our usual transition for new pupils has been affected by the current situation. The timeline for new Nursery and Reception Pupils, which will give the relevant dates and times for pupils attending school in September, will be sent out on **Monday 13th July**.



## Year 1 and year 2

In planning for the start of term we have thought very carefully about the most appropriate way to support the children, and to make a smooth transition into their new classroom environment along with their new class teacher and LSA's. The children have not been able to have the same transition experience in the summer term, which would have involved them visiting their new classroom and spending time with their new class teacher. Therefore, following advice from the Educational Psychology Service, we have planned a gradual return in the first week. We will split the children in each class into two groups of 15, as has been the case this term for Reception and Y1.

**Week beginning 7th September** - Each group of 15 will attend for two and a half days for the first week only. The children will be split alphabetical by surname.

**Week beginning 14th September** - All children in school Monday to Friday.

Drop off and pick up times **will continue to be staggered**. More information regarding this will be emailed to parents at the beginning of September, as well as details of the days your child will attend for the first week.

## HJS

The current plan for our transition back into school for September will focus on ensuring we safely welcome back pupils to school within the first few days of term. We do however need to ensure that the processes put in place work effectively with a larger number of pupils. We are therefore planning to stagger the return over 2 days. Once the pupils have started school they will then be expected to be in full time. This will mean that by Wednesday 9th September the whole school will be back to learning at HJS.

Day	Year group	Start time	All day / half day
Monday 7th Sept	Year 3	Morning	All day
Monday 7th Sept	Year 6	Afternoon	Half day
Tuesday 8th Sept	Year 4	Morning	All day
Tuesday 8th Sept	Year 5	Afternoon	Half day
Wednesday 9th Sept	All year groups	Morning	Full day

Drop off and pick up times **will continue to be staggered** and more information regarding this will be emailed to parents at the beginning of September.

## Critical Workers

HPP will not be running these groups in September. Providers offering wrap around care will be able to open for the autumn term. The Den, The Yellow Bus Company and Munchies all offer this service. Please check with them if you require it.



## Reports

We will be sending out the annual reports for children from the 7th July. If your child is attending school following that date, they will bring it home with them. The reports take into account the revised guidance to schools regarding reporting of pupil attainment and progress, and have been amended accordingly. Please use the link included in the additional letter to confirm receipt of the report and to add any feedback.

## Free school meals

Following the government announcement regarding free school meals over the summer break, both schools will be using Edenred to provide vouchers for children who are eligible. We have already been in communication with those families who are registered with us.

## Summer

Both schools have been open to vulnerable children and children of critical workers since 23rd March. However, as holiday care providers are now reopening, we will be closing the school to all pupils on 16th July. During the summer break both schools will begin substantial premise work in readiness for the new academic year.

Holiday clubs which are currently taking bookings are:

<p>Motive8</p> <p><a href="https://www.info@m8group.co.uk">https://www.info@m8group.co.uk</a></p>	<p>Fit for Sport</p> <p><a href="https://www.fitforsport.co.uk/holiday-activity-camps">https://www.fitforsport.co.uk/holiday-activity-camps</a></p>	<p>Tennis England</p> <p><a href="https://www.englandsportsgroup.com/blog/summer-holiday-camps-places-are-booking-up-fast">https://www.englandsportsgroup.com/blog/summer-holiday-camps-places-are-booking-up-fast</a></p>
<p>Koosa kids</p> <p><a href="https://www.koosakids.co.uk/holiday-club">https://www.koosakids.co.uk/holiday-club</a></p>	<p>Energy Kidz</p> <p><a href="https://www.energy-kidz.co.uk/holiday-club/">https://www.energy-kidz.co.uk/holiday-club/</a></p>	

## Note from the Chair of Governors

*The guidance from the Department of Education has been erratic during the COVID-19 crisis. In these unprecedented times the Governing Body has aimed to create an environment of care and due diligence, whilst balancing the needs of the school community. The Governing Body had oversight of the risk assessment that the schools conducted in preparation for the return of selected year groups (Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6) from Monday 1 June. We are satisfied that the Executive Leadership Team implemented arrangements that meant children and staff could return to a site with optimum measures in place to safeguard their health and wellbeing.*

*The Governing Body has been kept informed of all adjustments to this risk assessment, in line with the fast-paced changes that are being announced by the government.*



*We understand that there may be other schools within the borough that have welcomed back children from other year groups by closing the school for Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 children. HPP has followed Government guidance carefully, with further inputs from Achieving for Children and the Department for Education, and as per section 4 outlined [here](#), the appropriate strategy has been deployed.*

*As a parent of a child in year 2, I understand the disappointment felt by many parents that their children have missed out on formal school education these past few months. However, on behalf of the Governing Body, I can assure you all that the Executive Leadership Team has explored all approaches to maximising the number of children onsite, and has implemented the best arrangement possible at this time. I would like to formally thank the Executive Leadership Team, all HPP staff, parents, parent representatives, and the entire community for sticking together and helping us get through these challenging times together. It is during times like these that I'm reminded of just how proud and privileged I am to be part of the HPP community, and to serve as the Chair of Governors.*

## **A final note**

This has been a term like no other at HPP! Throughout the partial closure, both schools have received many messages of thanks and support from our parent community, for which we are very grateful. Parents have particularly recognised the teaching staff who have worked hard to ensure that home learning continued with excellent resources, which also engaged the children. We have received feedback from the parents of children who have been in school that they are pleased with how smoothly their children have returned, and felt safe and secure in their adapted classrooms. Both schools have worked hard to support the children and their families. This has included the groups for vulnerable and critical worker children and the coordination of the hundreds of food bags for the children entitled to free school meals. At all times we have tried to ensure communication was clear, well timed and accessible. From your feedback we know you have particularly enjoyed our Youtube channel and the videos we have posted both to support learning but also to lift spirits.

As a leadership team we are incredibly proud of the fantastic staff of HPP who have remained positive and fully committed to the children and families of HPP.

We are looking forward to seeing you in September at the start of a new academic year and wish you a restful and safe summer break.

Yours sincerely,



**Helen Lockey**  
**Executive Headteacher**

