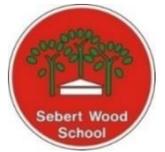


## SEBERT WOOD PARENT AND CARER UPDATE – 10 July 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of term we are finalising arrangements for September and tying the ends to what has been one of the most unusual terms we have ever known. The 'catch ups' on the field this week have proved very successful and feedback from the children has been very positive. With the varied weather this week, the marquee has proved invaluable!

Today you will receive notification of your child's teacher/s for September and this will be followed by transition videos and other materials to help support your child which can be found at <http://sebertwoodschool.co.uk/pupil-transition-information/> Please also see a message from me which introduces the staff transition videos <https://youtu.be/bPlymEQWEMA> I appreciate this is a different transition process to normal and given the circumstances we are prioritising the settling in period for September to take account of it. *Please note that plans are based on Government guidance for September, for a full return for all pupils, but is subject to change if the guidance or pandemic situation changes.*

I know that some of you are worried about how your child will manage after such a long time at home. Staff know that for some children the return may bring anxiety and that is to be expected. You can support your child by being as positive as you can about the return and reassuring them that it will be a smooth one. I am confident that our children will be able to make a successful return as you have kept them engaged in home learning and helped them to develop in so many other ways. In school we will be supporting all the children's pastoral needs as a top priority and staff are already skilled in ways to support children. <https://www.yesfutures.org/> is a charity which provides programmes to support children personal development and have special programmes for parents during the current crisis.

Some of you are also concerned about the curriculum that children have missed. All schools will be in the same situation and we have been told that the government will take account of the pandemic period and are funding 'catch up' programmes. We are already thinking about how to adapt the curriculum to account for the learning that may not have happened as planned. We also know that the children will have learnt different things and in some areas may have made more progress. We will use our professional skills to assess where the children are and plan from there.

One of the best things to help the children be school ready for September is to read. The Summer Reading Challenge is still being run by the libraries this year as a digital challenge. Here is the link <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/schools> Please help your child to take part and we will celebrate their reading achievements when we are back in school after the holidays.

We are also working with external providers regarding a multi activity summer camp on site for 5 – 11 year olds, from 27<sup>th</sup> July to 28<sup>th</sup> August. Spaces will be limited but prioritised for children from Sebert Wood and booked on a first come first served basis. Details to follow early next week.

Next week you will receive a one page letter from your child's current teacher/s which you can read with your child. The letter reflects on their time in school up to lockdown and highlights some of their experiences and achievements. Following mid-year reports in February, pupil achievement has been recorded and will be reviewed and updated in autumn, once the children have settled back into school.

We continue to work on our plans for September based on the guidance from the government. This is another lengthy logistical task and we will give you details about 'bubbles', staggered start/finish times and a range of other details, as soon as we can.

In the meantime thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Take care and have a good weekend.

*Peter Dewhurst and everyone at Sebert Wood.*