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Warwick Bridge Primary School
Newsletter No 28
Friday 22nd May 2020

Opening Warwick Bridge School.

A great deal of discussion has taken place at Warwick Bridge between the staff and members of the Governing Board. The school wants to open if it is safe to do so. The decision has therefore been taken to close the school as the Brampton Cluster Childcare Hub during the May half-term break. This will enable everyone in the school community to take a well-earned break from the tasks of setting work and liaising with families. Conditions permitting, **staff will return to school on Monday 1st June** and during this first week back they will prepare classrooms and the work they will carry out with pupils. The whole set up of the school will have to be reorganised, including cleaning, to accommodate the return of pupils – therefore, **no pupils will be in school during the week of 1st – 5th June**. On Monday 8th June, conditions permitting, the school will reopen for the pupils of the following age groups – **Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children, plus the children in any year group (except Nursery) of Key Workers**. This decision has been taken to safeguard everyone in the school community at this extremely difficult time.

We also realise that some parents/carers are anxious about sending children back in to school – this is completely understandable. The DfE has pointed out that no parent/carer will be penalised if they choose **not** to send their child/ren back in to school if they are in one of the cohorts expected to return.

The Local Authority has issued a letter outlining the approach to opening schools for the final part of summer term. You can access this letter on the school website at:

https://www.warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk/uploads/817/Letter_to_Parents_May_2020.pdf/

Thank you to all the families who have replied to school with your intentions for returning your child/ren to WBS in the final part of the school year. We have asked all parents and carers to respond regardless of the year group your child is in. This is because the government would like to see more children return to work from the beginning of July and we need to see if staffing can meet the need of the numbers returning.

The school will look very different to all pupils when we return. We are hoping to complete a video to show these differences and send you the completed film. Differences that will be in place will be:

- There will be no Breakfast and After School Clubs
- Staggered times for dropping off/picking up pupils
- Three separate entrances for pupil arrival
- No parent/carer to come in to school with their child
- Temperature of children taken at the class door in the morning, middle and end of the day using infra-red thermometer
- Pupils to stay with a group of 5-6 others in the same classroom at all times – these groups will be the ‘bubble’ that the pupils will remain with
- Each group will have their own toilets for their sole use
- Separate break times for all groups (playground and field only – no play equipment to be used)
- Dinner time to be spent in classroom, not in the school hall
- Classroom seating is one pupil per table with 2m between each pupil – social distancing will always be observed
- WBS staff will teach pupils, but your child may not have their usual class teacher
- Parents/carers are asked not to stay around the school premises after dropping off – please ensure social distancing at all times when around the school community

Throughout this whole process we will be referring to data and guidance given by the government and will respond accordingly. We will contact parents/carers if new information changes our plans. We have to react quickly throughout this crisis and I am sure that this is not going to change.

Our approach is very much in-line with other primary schools from across the Carlisle, who are also currently organising the move away from ‘Hub’ Schools back to provision on their own sites; in all cases the pupils who were eligible for childcare in the Hub Schools are the first priority.

WBS - Working, Believing, Succeeding – A Wonderful Bridge to Success

Whilst the decision taken is very much a Warwick Bridge School decision, it is a strategy also being adopted by 14 other schools from across the Brampton Area Schools Association (BASC). That said, the approach and dates to start the reopening process will differ from school to school. *Please be aware that the year groups which are being invited back first may differ in each individual school, based upon thorough risk assessments and local planning arrangements.*

We are inviting all parents and carers to ask any question at all about the opening of school in June. We will then publish a Frequently Asked Question sheet for everyone complete with answers to your questions. Please email your question to your class teacher.

Home Learning

As the half-term break is here all teachers will not be sending work for the pupils to do over the holiday period. If you are keen for your child to carry on with their studies please ensure they finish off any set work that is not completed. There will be two weeks of past work on the class pages of the school website. You can also work online with your child at a whole host of websites that have work for children of all ages. **BBC Bitesize** is a great place to start with a host of activities on every subject. We do recommend, however, that a break from school work is a good idea and it will allow you to spend quality time with your child/ren on activities you can choose together. Even though school has not been open for WBS pupils this term, the teachers have been working extremely hard planning the work, responding to parental/carer enquiries on Class Dojo and email. They also need the half-term break to recharge their batteries and prepare for the possible situation where we have some pupils in school who need work setting whilst organising the home learning for those who are not in school.

The government has also issued guidance for Home Learning. This seeks to help children at Primary Schools during this crisis. This has been recently updated. This is available to view on the Parents section of the school website at:

<https://www.warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk/parents/weekly-newsletters/>

You can also find the support document at: https://www.warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk/uploads/818/1_GOV_UK_COVID-19_Help_primary_school_children_with_education_advice_for_parents_and_carers_-_Rev_21_May_2020.pdf/

Teacher Contact – Teachers have been using Class Dojo in order to set work and send you messages. If you are not on Class Dojo please email the class teacher with your details so they can organise work being sent. Staff can be contacted on their school email address. But please refrain from contacting during the half-term break and outside normal work hours – thank you.

Mrs McBride – jmcbride@warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk
Miss Hogarth – nhogarth@warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk
Miss Stobbs – cstobbs@warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk
Mrs Douglass – ldouglass@warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk
Miss Day – sday@warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk
Mr Walsh – swalsh@warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk

Mrs Reid – a Cookery Masterclass

Mrs Reid has again been very busy in the kitchen recently. She has posted a video showing you how to make your own Meringues and it is done in easy to follow step-by-step instructions. To watch the video go to :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQ9NqyRAAd2o&feature=youtu.be>

School Handwash Video

Thank you to all staff, pupils, parents and carers who got involved in the latest school handwash video. A great big thank you to Mrs Pourloukakis and her energy in getting all this together. To watch the video go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHvHx1gwh-g&t=121s> It really is a fantastic video.

Tour of EYFS

If you know anyone who is looking to bring their child to WBS in September 2020 Mrs McBride has created a video that shows different areas of the EY setting. To access this go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOwhKpiyw2E>

Lockerbie Manor Residential

Parents and carers will now know that the residential is not going ahead this year. All Y5 and 6 families can obtain a full refund if you send Mrs Ridley your banking details – name of bank/building society, sort code and account number. Some Y5 parents may want to roll their payment forward to 2021. Please let Mrs Ridley know if you would like to do this.

All the best for the half-term break

Mr M Ashton