

Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Further Opening of Schools - Possible Nursery Opening

We potentially offering parents of Nursery pupils going in to Reception in September the opportunity to return to school from the 6<sup>th</sup> July. We intend on offering 4 sessions from Monday to Thursday either in the morning or the afternoon and the same for week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> July. We hope that in some of these sessions they will meet their next teacher, Miss Clarke.

We cannot offer places for children who will remain in Nursery in September at this point.

***If your child is in Nursery and due to come in to Reception in September can you please complete the questionnaire below (even if you don't want to take up the offer) ASAP by clicking the link:***

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FLCPDzGwKUyzlgN\\_CNbErEnEN4TS6WJCuFg2Wggp9fIUQUNPMIZFNTRZQzVBMEJBVFNUJdRRUC3Si4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FLCPDzGwKUyzlgN_CNbErEnEN4TS6WJCuFg2Wggp9fIUQUNPMIZFNTRZQzVBMEJBVFNUJdRRUC3Si4u)

*The decision on whether we can open for these weeks will depend on the number of positive responses, the space required and the staff available so please do not tell your children that they are definitely coming in.*

## Years 2/3, Year 3/4, Year 4 and Year 5

We have been trying to work with the Local Authority and the Health and Safety Team to try and organize some transition sessions for these classes where they could come in to school for a morning or an afternoon to meet their new teacher. At the moment, under the current rules, this is not possible. If anything changes we will be in touch as we do believe it is important.

These teachers will continue to hold Zoom virtual sessions with pupils however, and we will try and arrange some of these with their next teacher. If your child has not been part of these sessions please get in contact with your class teacher via Seesaw.

## Returning to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6

Due to the planning for the return of other pupils in school we are setting **Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> June** as the last opportunity for parents to contact Mr Snape on [headteacher@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk) to take up the offer of places in **Year 6** up until the end of term. This is due to the planning required for spaces around school. You do not need to contact school if your Y6 child is already attending.

**Reception and Year 1** already still have enough classroom space to take on further pupils after that date.

## Staff Changes (our apologies, this section is a replacement section from v1 and v2 of the newsletter)

Mrs Bushnell, Miss North and Mr McGrath are leaving us at the end of the school year. They will be missed by staff and pupils alike. Miss North and Mr McGrath are moving on to further their careers and Mrs Bushnell has decided to retire after working in the school for the best part of two decades. We would like to thank both of them for their dedication to the school and the support they have given to the children and parents over the years.

On a personal note Mr Snape would like to thank Mrs Bushnell for stepping up and helping the school out during a very difficult time when he first took up post as Deputy and he ended up as Acting Headteacher within a few months. Something he will always appreciate as well as Mrs Bushnell's nurturing of so many pupils love for learning, particularly in her specialist subject of History.

We would also like to welcome to the school Mrs Travis, who joins us from Newton Primary School, who will be taking over the Year 1 class for 2020/21 and Miss Clarke who will remain with the school in Reception next year. We are sure they will enjoy being part of The Pilsley School Team. Mrs Mike is stepping up in to a teaching role in school, she will be job sharing with Miss Allanson.

## New Classes for September 2021

With COVID-19 affecting your children's education over the past few months the Pilsley Staff Team have considered closely what would be best for continuing your children's academic development on return to school. The biggest issues we feel the children will face will be the length of time out of school routine, being away from the social aspect of school, and the uncertainty of 'who will teach me?' and, 'who will I be with in my class'. Never mind any new rules on social distancing on their return.

For their education, however, our biggest concern is enabling academic catchup. We need to get this right and making any changes to class structures in September would significantly complicate teachers planning and probably delay the pace of delivery as pupils adjust to any further changes. With all this in mind we have decided to keep the class year groups as they are for 2020/21 with the teacher they would have 'expected'. This means that the children will stay with their current classmates in September. *Therefore:*

Current Reception will move to Year 1 with Mrs Travis

Year 1 will move to Year 2 with Mrs Ebbage

Year 2/3 will become Year 3/4 with Mrs Gooding

Year 3/4 will become Year 4/5 with Miss Allanson and Mrs Mike as joint teachers

Year 4 will become Year 5 with Mr James

Year 5 will become Year 6 with Mrs Aldread

## Reports

We will be providing a limited report at the end of the year. This will reflect progress and achievement of pupils until March 20<sup>th</sup> when we closed down, as well as a comments section. We hope you understand how difficult it is to provide any extended reports when pupils were half way through many curriculum areas against which we are required to make judgements. This will mean they will have not 'achieved' the curriculum for that year. For this reason we will be including a progress measure to reflect how much improvement they made. We are looking to get these to you early in July.

If you have any further questions please contact Mr Snape via [headteacher@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk) or call the office (being aware it may not be staffed) on 01773 872378.

Take Care and Stay Safe



Headteacher and the Pilsley Staff Team