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Dear Parents,

We would like to begin by thanking you all for supporting the schools with positive comments and messages during the last couple of months including connecting with us via Tapestry to share the extraordinary learning that has been happening in so many different ways at home. Please know that your kindness and home learning support that you are giving your children is truly appreciated.

You will have seen the announcement from the government last week and the intention of not opening schools fully before the end of the Summer Term. As a federation we are constantly reviewing and responding to the government guidance as it is released in order to make decisions and plan for the future. Therefore we will continue to do the best we can for the wider opening, based on the safety of the pupils and staff, with education at the heart.

You will be aware that we have been open to the children of Key Workers since the lockdown began in March and are now open to Year 6 pupils as well and have been since the 1st of June. The schools feel quite different; however, we are all looking forward to the time when we can run our schools once more as busy, vibrant learning environments with everything that entails.

Our bubbles are working well but are nearly at capacity in both schools so if you need or choose for your children to attend the key worker or Year 6 provision, we would like to ask you to give us **FIVE working days' notice!** This will enable us to ensure adequate safety and staffing measures are in place. Thank you in advance for this.

In the meantime, please do upload photos of your children learning at home to Tapestry. The staff are thoroughly enjoying celebrating the Maths and English successes and seeing the creative projects you have been doing with your children. Thank you to those of you have already activated your Tapestry accounts, it truly is making a remarkable difference to see the children's learning in action and to have that connection between home and school for all children and staff. If you need a reminder on how to do this, feel free to email us or the school offices we are all more than willing to help.

Finally, it is unlikely that schools will be open over the summer holiday period. We will keep this under review depending on further information from the government. We are currently planning for the new academic year and will keep you informed as we go along. We hope to be able to update you in the next month about plans for September, once further guidance has been issued from the DfE. In the autumn term we will continue to follow government guidance and are hoping this will mean we can be open to many more if not all pupils in some way.

Take care, keep safe and with very best wishes,

Mel Vincent and Bill Moore
Acting Heads of Schools

Let Your Light Shine

