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**10<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

## Update.

**Good morning,**

I wanted to update you on how the week has gone so far for the children in Reception, Year 1 and 6.

We have been delighted to welcome more children back and the numbers are slowly rising for next week.

We have a small bubble set up in Nursery for our Reception children with Caroline Rachel, Lucy Hall and Tsimba, however we have staff on standby in case the number increase and need to create Reception bubble B.

The children have settled in really well and have loved being in school and seeing other children.

If you would like to return to school next week please let the school office know today to allow us to organise registers, school lunches and staffing.

After receiving your feedback via the survey sent out last week, we decided to create two Year 1 bubbles. We felt that it would benefit everyone to have two smaller equal sized bubbles rather than one large one (we were expecting 14 children).

Mr Heming and Rose are in one bubble and Mrs Jekyll and Mr Korpala in the other. We split the children equally and this has worked out well. Again, the children arrived at school and have all been happy to be in school and having a great time with the staff.

Again, if you wish your child to attend from next week please inform the school office today to allow us to plan appropriately. We will fill each bubble equally to keep numbers as low as we can until each bubble reaches 30. We are unable to accept requests for children to be in a particular bubble as this would simply be unfair for those who have already started.

Year 6 were delighted to be back at school and were initially a bit shell shocked, but this lasted until lunch and then they were back to their usual wonderful selves.

We decided to create one bubble for Year 6 as we felt them being in a larger group would suit them better and make the organisation of playgrounds and toilets much simpler.

Mr Marley is working alongside Mr Dusek and Ms Natasha in Year 6, we have staff on standby to create a new bubble if need be.

Please let us know today if you wish your child to start back in Year 6 on Monday.

Our key worker bubble is now at maximum capacity and we have a few parents requesting places. We cannot create another key worker bubble until we know how big the Reception and Year 6 bubbles are going to get. We do not have space or staff to go beyond 7 bubbles.

We understand that some parents would like to wait and see how things go before they make a decision, however if you have decided that you will 100% not be sending your child back until September I would really appreciate if you could let us know. If you are still unsure that is fine.

If I know there are families who are not going to be sending their children back, then I may be able to create a new key worker bubble, so I'd really appreciate your support.

We understand that school looks very different to normal and is still very quiet. Everyone has worked really hard to get us to where we are. We would love to have everybody back in school and be back to how things were, but I am afraid this simply is not possible, at the moment. We have followed government guidelines to get to this position and we are constantly reviewing.

If guidelines were to change then we would plan in line with the changes.

We will be sending out more work packs next week to help support children who are unable to access a computer. You will be asked to collect the packs of work that will be supplied in plastic wallets.

We will also send home verbal and non-verbal reasoning packs for the pupils in Year 5 so they can practise, in case they have to sit tests for secondary schools. Once we have details from Secondary Schools regarding the application process we will be in touch.

The vast majority of staff are now working in school and therefore may be teaching 2 classes, one virtually and one in a classroom. We are working hard to ensure the teachers are supported to enable them to continue to deliver high quality work for our home learners and our children in school.

If you have an iPad or laptop that you no longer need we would be really grateful to receive this. We need IT equipment to support our pupils both in and out of school. We are unable to use our computer suite as this is in the Year 6 bubble space.

If you have any equipment please let [admin@reay.lambeth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@reay.lambeth.sch.uk) known. Our IT technician is able to refurb old equipment.

I hope that the messages from staff on the blogs, twitter and our YouTube channel show you how much we all care about you and cannot wait to see everyone back in school.

Please take care and look after each other.

**Best wishes**

**Mrs Andrews**