



Halebank C of E Primary School
Heathview Road
WIDNES
Cheshire
WA8 8UZ



Headteacher: Mr R Harley

Telephone number: 0151 425 5798

Friday, 26th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Wider Opening of School for Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6

This week we have welcomed back pupils from Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. It has been lovely to see the school filling back up with the sights and sounds of laughter and learning. We currently have three 'bubbles' of children in place with an additional group of children whose parents are key workers.

Those pupils who were eligible to return should now be attending school every day until the end of term so that each 'bubble' remains consistent and secure. We have closely followed the Department for Education's (DfE) guidance for schools regarding parents' take up of the offer of places; this states that 'where parents indicate that they do not (want a place), or do not respond, schools may offer this capacity to another pupil'. Unfortunately, this means that if you have not committed to your child's place, it will no longer be available.

Pupils in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5

As a staff team, we have arranged ourselves across the four 'bubbles' in school and these are now fixed for the remainder of the year. It was our hope to try to open the school up to pupils in some of the other year groups and we have tried to find ways to do this without affecting the safety of the groups we have already set up. I spoke to a colleague from the Department of Education's coronavirus helpline this morning and talked through our school set up. Based on the school's staffing arrangements, I was advised that Halebank would not have the capacity to open more widely to any additional pupils.

It is with a heavy heart that I can now confirm that our school will not be opening to pupils from Years 2 to 5 until September. Like me, the staff are extremely disappointed about this but are keen to invite pupils who are not returning to school before September for some form of face-to-face meeting with their teachers. I will confirm the arrangements for this as soon as I have the details. As you will be aware, a full return for pupils in all year groups from September is currently in the planning stages. We are awaiting further guidance from the DfE regarding the arrangements for this.

Home Learning

Please continue to keep in touch with your child's class teacher using the email addresses below.

Mrs Griffin-Jones: Class1@halebank.halton.sch.uk

Mrs Draper: Class2@halebank.halton.sch.uk

Mrs Eley: Class3@halebank.halton.sch.uk

Mrs Bennett: Class4@halebank.halton.sch.uk



Arrangements for Dropping Off and Collection of Children

We have trialled our new staggered arrangements at the start and end of the day to reduce congestion around the 'pinch points' on the school grounds. In order to speed things up a little, there will be a few small changes to the drop off times starting from next week:

Bubble	Drop Off Time	Pick Up Time (Mon-Thu)	Pick Up Time (Fri only)
Reception	8.45 – 8.55 am	2.45 pm	12.15 pm
Year 1	8.55 – 9.05 am	3.00 pm	12.30 pm
Year 6	9.05 – 9.15 am	3.15 pm	12.45 pm
Key Workers	as arranged with the school office		

Social Distancing



Please observe the social distancing measures in place on the school grounds and model a safe 2 metres between yourselves and other parents/carers, children and staff. There are coloured markers outside each classroom to show the children where to wait before the doors open at the start of the day. Thank you for your cooperation.

Collective Worship with Rev Roland

Reverend Roland has posted part 3 of his collective worship based on the story of Esther. Do take a look by following the link to [Roland's YouTube channel](#). Thanks to Roland and Gilly for the time they have spent putting yet another session together for us.

Best Wishes from the Halebank Team

I am so sorry that we will not be seeing the full school back until after the summer and I hope we will still be able to arrange an opportunity for you and your child to see us before the end of the year. If you have any concerns or questions, please send me an email at head.halebank@halton.gov.uk. If you need to contact the school office, Mrs Fenlon can be reached at sec.halebank@halton.gov.uk.

Stay safe and take care ☺

Yours sincerely

Mr R Harley