



# Filey Junior School

**Widening horizons and reaching our potential whilst respecting the world and each other,  
within a happy, healthy and positive learning community.**

## **Newsletter 16th July 2020**

Usually, at this point in the year, I would be wishing you a very peaceful summer break and welcoming the opportunity to have a well earned rest for both pupils and parents (and staff). This year, things don't seem quite so easy to word and the different experiences which we have all encountered over the last few months has made for a difficult time for everyone. It has been really pleasing, however, to see how well we have all pulled together as a community over this period with pupils, parents and school working together to ensure the most positive outcome possible. Some of the work you have shared that has been done at home; the video lessons and online communications between school and home; the live 1:1 interventions; and the general communication and mutual encouragement and respect has been something which I think we can all take as a positive from the situation and we can all be very proud of.

Obviously, when children return in September, there will be some children who are anxious and a little worried over the return; there will be some who can't wait to get back and see their friends and teachers; and there will be some who will be feeling a wide range of feelings and emotions. It should be noted that the Government has stated that returning to school is compulsory from September and we desperately want to avoid children missing out on any aspect of their education due to the closed period. Please be assured, therefore, that we will be treating every child as an individual during the school return period and, whilst not drawing attention to any worries or concerns, we will provide the support which we feel is appropriate. It will help, however, if you begin preparing children for the return to school at an early date and by explaining that children do now have to go back to school and that we will be making sure that there are rules and guidelines which will keep them safe.

### **September Arrangements**

You and your children should now have the information regarding new classes for September along with reports from the current academic year. What you may not be aware of, is that from September we will be implementing the current Year 6 model across the school. What this means is that children will have a separate teacher for Maths, Literacy and for the other curriculum areas. This is a system which we have run for the last few years in Year 6 and has been extremely popular and successful. It means that children will be taught maths by a teacher specialising in Maths and likewise for other subjects. This system will not begin from day one - we intend to give children the opportunity to get settled back into school routines first - but we hope to begin this after a week or two back at school.

The only arrangement that is left to be made for September is regarding drop-offs and pick-ups. The school staff and I are working hard to try to find a system which works well for you all and avoids lots of different times and periods of waiting. We are confident that drop-offs can be managed quite easily but we are finding pick-ups a little more difficult due to the number of people which inevitably need to wait at the gates to pick children up. We are also mindful of the fact that Government guidelines could change at any point and for this reason, we will be contacting you via email towards the end of August to finalise arrangements.

### **Crossing Patrol**

Unfortunately, Mr Gates will not be able to continue in this role in the new academic year. As a result, NYCC Highways and Transportation are now looking to recruit a replacement. Advertisements will soon appear in local press and media but if you would like more information about the role, please contact: Stuart Thompson (School Crossing Patrol Advisor) on 07971543548.

What a year! Let's hope that we can all return to normal in September and that we can once again come together as a community and celebrate the children's achievements. Have a great summer and remember to look out for emails and on Facebook for the latest news and updates.

Mr H McCathey & Staff