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Acting Headteacher: Mrs S Yates

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents,

I am sure that many of you will have now seen the headline 'All children back to school full time in September'. At the moment, we are still awaiting further Trust guidance with specific details regarding this, whilst trying to decipher the many pages of Government guidance that was released yesterday.

The Government Guidance includes plans to:

- Lift current restrictions on group sizes to allow schools, colleges and nurseries to fully reopen to all children and young people as COVID-19 infection rates continue to fall.
- Keep children in class or year group sized 'bubbles' and encourage older children and staff to keep their distance from each other where possible.
- Encourage testing if staff, pupils or their families develop COVID-19 symptoms and provide access to easy to use home testing kits for children and staff who would otherwise be unable to get a test.
- Increase the frequency of cleaning and minimise contact in corridors.
- Take action in circumstances where there is a positive case in a school or college.

Further detail on some of the other areas outlined in the guidance will be published by the Government in the coming weeks.

Our priority, as always, will be the health and safety of everyone in our community. We will keep you fully updated with details over the next two weeks before school closes for the summer.

**School will be closing on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020 for all pupils and will reopen on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.**

You can also find all term dates and INSET days for the next academic year on our school website.

<https://www.pyegreen.staffs.sch.uk/term-dates>

### **What have our families been doing this week ?**

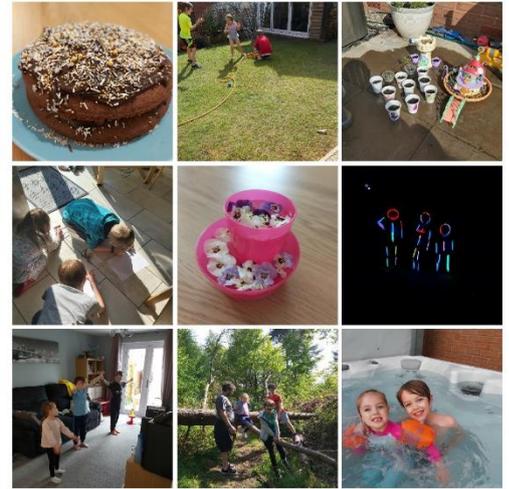


Alex has been learning some essential life skills during lockdown. These include using the washing machine, putting the washing out, cooking, cleaning and sorting through clothes for charity shops.

Fantastic Alex, what super skills to develop 😊

Thank you to the Jones' family for sharing their lockdown highlights. It looks like you had some super family days and lots of fun.

*Dear Mrs Yates, Dominic, Lucas and Ellie Jones here, we hope you are ok. We have been looking through all the photos that we have taken during lockdown and have chosen some of our favourite ones to show you. We have had good days and bad days, days where we have laughed lots and days where we have been angry or sad but we are at home, we are together and we are safe and well. We are all missing our friends and our fabulous teachers who have still been there to support us every week. During lockdown we have discovered some lovely walks, made some yummy cakes, got creative with the flowers in the garden, had lots of fun with glow sticks in the dark, enjoyed the sunshine, been fascinated by the thunderstorms and many more things. Thank you for still being there for us and for being the best school ever.*



Grace has been learning to play the piano since the start of Lockdown. She is really enjoying this. Well done for learning a new skill Grace !

### **Please REMEMBER TO SIGN UP - Fundraising for Pye Green Academy**

If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE! 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use [easyfundraising](#) to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share today.

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[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/pyegreenac/?invite=XLUKDA%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm\\_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm\\_content=srt](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/pyegreenac/?invite=XLUKDA%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm_content=srt)

## **Socially distanced 'Meet the Teacher'**

Today was the first 'socially distanced Meet the Teacher' session. Thank you to all of the parents and pupils who joined us and braved the weather - it was lovely to see you all 😊

Next Friday will be drop in sessions for pupils in Year 4, 5 and 6 in September 2020. We look forward to seeing you there. I will try to 'book' better weather.

Staff will be sending out a 'Welcome to the Year Group' email next week which will give additional information about what they will need for September. These will also be available on our school website in the **year group** folders.

## **Reports**

Hopefully by now you have received your child's end of year report written by their teacher. It has been lovely to have feedback from parents – children were waiting in the window for their teacher to arrive, they have 'loved' seeing their teacher, children kept asking if 'the teacher was on the way!' One child made my day by answering the door, gasping and saying, 'Oh it's so good to see you, I've missed you all so much!'

If anyone hasn't received their child's report, please let us know via the school office.

Please contact your child's class teacher or email [office1@green.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office1@green.staffs.sch.uk) if you would like to discuss the content of the report.

## **Government Guidance**

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19): support for parents and carers to keep children safe online**

Whilst there are huge benefits to being online in order to stay connected to family and friends during this period, the government recognises many parents may feel concerned about the activities and content their children are accessing. This guidance outlines resources to help keep children safe from different risks online and where to go to receive support and advice.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

## **Therapeutic Support Adviser Video Number 8**

The eighth, and final video from Claire Wilson has now been uploaded to our website and is based around 'getting back to normal' and how your child might react to this. As well as through the website, you can also access the video by following the link <https://chew.mykajabi.com/messages-pqa-8>

Additional information can also be found on the poster attached to this email 'Ten Ways to Help Your child Cope With Changes' from the Young Minds Mental Health Charity.

There is also another chance to attend a FREE 'Teen Brain Workshop' on 14<sup>th</sup> July for those parents with teenagers (see attached flyer).

## **Free School Meals**

I am aware that over the past few weeks, the circumstances of our families may have changed. You might now be eligible for 'Free School Meals' or Pupil Premium Funding even if you haven't been before.

The Government have also revealed recently that the £15 per week vouchers **will continue for each eligible child during the 6 weeks holiday** therefore £90 for the length of the summer break.

To qualify, you must be receiving the benefits listed on previous letters but you can still apply by following this link <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals/staffordshire>

Have a relaxing weekend, take care and stay safe.

Best wishes,

*Sarah Yates*

Acting Headteacher