

Pegswood Primary School News

<http://www.pegswood.northumberland.sch.uk/website>

Issue 29

Friday 26th June



We hope this newsletter finds you well.

Uniform

You should have all received a Dojo message earlier in the week regarding school uniform. Our supplier, Emblematic, are operating online only at the moment and you can find the link to their website from our main website homepage. They are not offering a delivery to school option this year but will deliver free to your home if you order by July 1st.

Building work

You may remember just over a year ago we had extensive work completed on the roof of our front building. It is now the turn of our rear building. At the current time when there is less activity in school and on the rear yards, the local authority has initiated the start of the building work to replace and repair the roofs on our rear building. Part of the Key Stage 2 playground is currently fenced off whilst they work on the Year 4 roof and that end of school. This should take them up to the end of term where they will then expand their work to incorporate the rest of the building. I have been assured that the work will be completed by September.

End of school year

School will not be open to any children over the summer holidays. School will remain operating as we are currently, pending any enforced changes, and will close on Friday 17th July at 4.15pm. After discussion with the governors, it was decided that the lockdown measures had eased sufficiently and that the need to open for key workers and vulnerable children had changed.

September

We are expecting to be open in September for all children. We are currently planning a variety of scenarios in order to meet this expectation and so unfortunately at this point I cannot inform you exactly what September will look like. We are again awaiting the Department for Education advice and guidance on what September will look like and are promised that this information will be published in the coming week. Whilst not wanting to pre-empt this guidance and whilst I certainly have no idea what will be in it, I would imagine that the social distancing rules will be dropped and maximum group sizes will increase. This is the first plan we are working to and hopefully will enable us to have all children from all classes back in school at the same time. As soon as we have information and we have had time to work with it, we will inform you.

We recognise and welcome the need for additional support that has been cited by the government in order for children to 'catch up'. We are fully aware that all children have lost valuable time in the classroom and when they return to us in school, we will be able to ensure that any necessary measures



are put in place. This 'catch up' will be in traditional pen and paper activities, but also a wider more holistic approach as well. We always pride ourselves in school that we are passionate about nurturing the whole child and this will be more needed than ever next year. We will draw on our strong links with other agencies who have worked with children in school already, such as My Mental Health Rocks and Youth Sport Trust, to help us achieve this.

End of year reports

Teachers are currently working through finishing your child's reports. These will look a little different to previous year's reports. There will be no judgement on the academic 'level' (Towards, Expected or Depth) of your child and there will be no recording of their attendance. School reports will be emailed to you during the last week of term. If you are unable to print these off, please contact us in September when we can issue you with a paper copy alongside your emailed version.

Year 6

It is usual at this time of year for plans to be well underway to say goodbye to our Year 6 leavers. Unfortunately, this isn't going to be possible in the normal way. However, as with many things during the last four months, we have redesigned this, keeping within all the guidance from the DfE and local authority and have the seeds of a plan. It won't be like anything that happened in 'normal' times, but it will be a way for us, the Year 6 children and some families, to say goodbye. More information will be sent direct to Year 6 next week.

Transition

Hopefully Year 6 have been accessing the website at Ashington Academy in order to meet different members of staff and have a virtual tour of the school. I know that you will also have received packs from them to work through.

For the rest of us who are staying at Pegswood, we are a little bit luckier. We know all the staff and see them almost on a daily basis. However, we know that this isn't the same. Unfortunately, children won't be able to 'meet' their new teacher in person. However, staff are putting together a short video of themselves and their classrooms to share with the children in the coming weeks. Class information will be shared soon and then the short welcome video will be shared with you via Class Dojo.

As with everything at the moment, please try and attempt as much or as little of the suggestions, ideas and work that you are able to do. Teachers will continue to offer as much support as they possibly can.

We understand how difficult this situation is especially as we draw towards the end of term and the weather has become warmer. However, please keep communicating with your current class teacher and sharing the work you are doing on a weekly basis.

You are not alone in the worries and frustrations that you might be feeling at the moment. Many of our own staff are also feeling exactly the same as they try to continue a home learning programme with their own children.

Our school office remains open each day between the hours of 8.30am-11.00am if you need to get in touch with school.

Take care.

