



Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been a challenging week for many. We are all learning to understand conflicting advice and wrestling with our own interpretations of what is allowed. We have continued to remain open in Bubbles for Key Workers' children, Nursery, Reception, Year 1, and Year 6. Some teachers are teaching in school, online and to different year groups so I would like to thank them for their hard work and ability to adapt. The children are very good at adapting and despite many of them becoming physically tired due to the new routines, they have slotted well into a new way of working.

Black Lives Matter

Due to all of the coverage in the press in the last two weeks, I decided to talk to the children on Thursday about the importance of community and understanding racism. We are a diverse school, we celebrate our differences and I am proud that our school stands up for all communities and what is right. We're passionate about bringing Black British history to young people. Right now, the national curriculum doesn't include much about Black British history. Surprisingly, it's not compulsory to teach in schools, even though it's an important part of our past. As an independent school, we're able to change this. Our whole curriculum will now encompass a more diverse approach to the teaching of History, PSHE and Citizenship. We already embrace the diversity of our school and we celebrate everyone's differences. From September this year, we'll aim to teach a contextual, globalised, unbiased history that roots the Black British experience in histories of movement and migration. We want to help all of our students become fully rounded citizens and ready for an increasingly globalised world.

Founders Day 2020

As you can imagine, Founders Day in its normal form will not be taking place this year. We do have plans for an 'Alternative Founders Day' which will be presented in an online format. We are currently planning the details of this event. Current government guidance means we can't have lots of you in the school grounds and social-distancing in a marquee would be impossible. We will still celebrate all of our successes at the end of the year and when we are able to we will reschedule an event, hopefully next term, to celebrate in person.

Nursery

The weather hasn't been as kind this week, but the children at Sunnylands Nursery have still been outside as much as possible. They made a large obstacle course around the tennis court and made virtual Father's Day cards. Shh! Now Sunnylands Nursery has reopened, more suggested activities will be posted for the children to try at home. The topic of hygiene, and staying safe and well has been explored. We have been amazed at the knowledge and understanding the children have displayed when talking about germs and the Coronavirus. Well done parents, you have done a great job! We have also sent the termly overview to all nursery parents which shows what would have been covered in a 'normal' Trinity term. There are many excellent resources and ideas available online and I hope you can access some of these. Again, if you need support with anything in particular, please email the school office, which is now open during the day.



Daily Yoga

The bad weather has meant that some of our outdoor activities have had to move indoors. A fantastic activity for children is yoga. Many sports organisations encourage activities such as yoga and pilates as they promote increased flexibility, improved respiration, energy and vitality, improved cardio and circulatory health and protection from injury. What's more, we have been advised that it is a Covid-19 friendly activity due to the easy social distancing and low risk of aerosol generation of droplets. Many of our children in and out of school took part in Cosmic Yoga this morning and it was great to see the pictures of children 'striking a pose'.

Celebration Assemblies

Each week, teachers have been recognising the successes of our children in regular celebration assemblies. This morning's Upper School assembly was led by Mr Burgham, who dressed up for the occasion in full black tie and is available to watch in the Google Classroom Hall of Fame. For the first time ever, the Lower School Celebration Assembly was streamed live from the Hub for children in school and at home to share their achievements. Well done everybody for all of your hard work!

Our thoughts are with Stamford School

I learnt this afternoon that a fire has broken out at nearby Stamford School. No children have been hurt but we send all of our best wishes to their whole school community at this particularly challenging time.

Cricket Nets

Before lockdown took place, the PTA had kindly purchased a cricket net for the school. The Year 6s have enjoyed testing it this week and confirm that it's a lot of fun and great for improving their batting and bowling. It is also incredibly easy to socially-distance at the end of a 20 yard cage. Hopefully more children will get to enjoy this fantastic resource as they return to school. Mr Burrows' ball launcher came in very handy too. A massive thank you to the PTA who always support the school in useful and interesting ways.

We will continue with the same Bubbles as we await further guidance from the government and the DfE. The Prime Minister has given schools the power to decide their own strategies, something we're still working on at the moment. We have shared our plans with those year groups who are already back in school and as the situation becomes clearer we will update you. We will not rush any decisions and will always prioritise the safety of our pupils.

Have a lovely weekend as the sun begins to shine again.

Warmest regards,

Mr Thomas

Headteacher