



To All Parents

Friday 12 June 2020

Dear Parents

Weekly Update Friday 12 June 2020

Today I held my first remote School Council meeting with the representatives from Year 3 and 4, which was great fun. Among the many great ideas was one where the children expressed a desire to get back to school if at all possible before the end of the school year. This dovetails well with the latest announcements from the Government on the re-opening of schools.

As you may have heard, schools are being permitted to bring back other children, provided the overall group size of 15 is not exceeded and provided we are able to keep the children socially distanced as far as possible, but in the first instance we need your help please. We are already planning for this and what we would like to see is each year group returning **at least once** before the end of term. We will shortly be inviting your child in for one particular day, either in the week commencing Monday 22 June or in the week commencing Monday 29 June. Which day (or more often wherever possible) that your child may attend, along with precise times for each year group have yet to be confirmed because of the need to stagger entry and exit times at the various gates. In order to adhere to the guidelines and to plan any form of rotational return we need a confirmed list of which children would like to attend. Unfortunately, under the current social distancing rules we are unable to accommodate the whole school on site simultaneously and we may need to split classes into smaller groups. The main focus of this time on site will be for them to reconnect with The Manor, their friends and their teachers. The academic programme may take on a slightly different look and for this short period of time we will be focusing our attention on those in school and their re-acclimatisation. Whilst we have yet to completely formulate all elements of the plan, it is likely that remote learning in its current form will need to be adjusted.

We have been incredibly proud of the progress that our children have made and the content of work that has been covered during this period of remote learning. Usually at this time of the year, there are many disruptions to the timetable. This is always factored into curriculum planning and one of the upsides of this period of remote learning has been the ability to focus on the core academic subjects without the other usual welcome interruptions such as trips, activities and special events. This gives us greater flexibility within the system this summer which we aim to use to reintegrate our children before the summer holidays.

The Manor Preparatory School Faringdon Road Abingdon Oxfordshire OX13 6LN
Tel: 01235 858458 • email: admissions@manorprep.org • www.manorprep.org

For planning purposes, we will need an exact number of children returning, since to amend a group by just one pupil can make the difference between setting up one room or two so please help us by replying promptly by 8pm on Sunday evening (14th June).

To simply answer “yes” or “no” to a potential return, please complete the reply slip [here](#).

Arrangements for children already in school will not alter. For clarification this is Critical Workers, Pre-Nursery, Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 - parents of these children do not need to complete the reply slip.

We wish you all a very happy weekend and a good rest.

Yours

Alastair Thomas
Headmaster