



TAUNTON PRE-PREPARATORY & NURSERY SCHOOL

TAUNTON SOMERSET TA2 6AE Telephone: 01823 703300 Email: tpshead@tauntonschool.co.uk

19th March 2020

Dear Parents,

I trust that you have found time to read the updates from Mr Glaser as Head of our whole school and that you are feeling as well-informed as one can be.

I have been hugely appreciative and proud of the response of our pupils, staff and parents and it is at times like these that we feel the true strength of our very special school community.

As stated by Mr Glaser in his letter of Tuesday, we are taking the government guidance on social interaction very seriously and have taken tough decisions on our sharing assembly and chapel services (including the End of Term Assembly scheduled for Thursday, and the Easter Services scheduled for Friday). This week's celebration certificates will happen at the first available opportunity upon our return to school after Easter.

For children who have had to miss school during these last few days of term, we are doing all that we can to provide activities and work to them.

We are hoping very much that we are not prevented from starting the Summer term as usual, but the matter may be taken out of our hands. If we are in a position where we are not able to open as usual, we are in a very strong position with regard to our capability to use our remote teaching and learning systems. A lot of work has been done with staff and with pupils during the last 10 days in order to ensure that pupils will be confident in what to do at the start of next term if we are closed. Any pupils finishing term early should take with them, as far as possible, the packs which might be needed for remote learning, Class teachers have been speaking with their pupils about these.

We have drafted detailed information for parents regarding our remote learning systems, which we will send out via our Clarion message service if we are prevented from opening at the start of next term. For the time being, please note the key points below:-

- Please do speak with your child about the preparation work which has been done with all pupils during the past two weeks. We hope that you will be impressed by how confident and positive they all are about remote learning.
- For the next three weeks, we are not expecting pupils in TPPS to be doing schoolwork as we are breaking up for the Easter Holidays on Friday. They have worked hard during the Spring term and we can be grateful that we have been able to complete the whole of our scheduled Spring term.

- In terms of technical and equipment requirements for our remote learning systems, we are endeavouring to make things as accessible and straight-forward as possible for pupils and parents. We realise that all homes have different levels of internet connection and differing numbers of computers/devices, so we have planned so that the core teaching and learning will be able to take place using the activities provided as well as with an internet connection and a web browser.
- Should we be unable to open after the Easter holidays, our teaching will continue on our remote learning systems. All year groups will be using Firefly, our school virtual learning environment, which has been established for many years. These resource pages are public and will be accessed through a link sent to your email.
- N3 to Y2 – Class Dojo is a collaborative piece of software that parents can log into. This allows the parent/child and the teacher to communicate on an interface that is friendly and intuitive.
- We have spent considerable time on the pastoral, well-being, health and safeguarding aspects of remote learning, and detailed information and guidance on this will be sent to you and your children in the event of this.

It has been tremendous to see everyone's digital skills growing by the day, and, whatever happens in the coming weeks, we will all come out the other end of this crisis with enhanced expertise and capabilities in the field of digital learning.

With very best wishes to you all,



Louise Leah
Head of Pre-Prep and Nursery