

Ashford Park Primary School

'Inspiring a love for lifelong learning'

21st February 2021

Dear children, parents and carers, I hope that you all remain well during this continuing period of lockdown and despite the restrictions that we are all living under, that there have been opportunities for some fun and downtime over half term.

We await to hear of the Prime Minister's 'road map', to further guide school opening over the coming days, weeks and months and hope to be reassured 'that data will be used instead of dates' for the return to school for our children, in as safe an environment as we can possibly provide. We have continued to monitor information sent in half term but, again, we expect to learn of the Prime Minister's plans at the same time as parents do. As soon as we have the information we will be able to put a plan in place and communicate it with parents.

Remote education will recommence as from Monday 22nd February. For our children working and learning from home, please remember to attend all three of your online check-ins, as these have proved so useful for sharing your learning, addressing misconceptions and for providing a chance for us all to virtually meet. We are all so very proud of your hard work and commitment to keeping your learning going and you should be very proud of yourselves with how much you have achieved. Nobody ever imagined that learning would be done over screens, with teachers being in a different building, yet here we are! We miss those of you at home, as school just isn't the same, even for the children who are here. As we await the next steps during these concerning times, please don't let home learning become a struggle if you feel your child is not engaging as well as they should, the fact that they are online and feel secure is a success you should feel proud of. If things get tough don't let it become an issue and bring down the mood of your household. Your emotional wellbeing is important to us. Please may we ask that you continue to encourage your child to engage, provide a safe space for them to learn and allow them to work at their own pace.

For those children who are returning physically to school **THANK YOU** for respecting the health and wellbeing of the children and staff of APPS. **PLEASE** be advised that we will endeavor to provide face to face education in school, during this national lockdown and global pandemic for children who **cannot be safely looked after at home**. We respectfully ask that parents and carers do not take advantage of our school provision, as the health and wellbeing of us all is paramount if we are to continue to open safely for all in the near future. All of our bubbles are full, and despite the guidance issued

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Tarrant
Ashford Park Primary School I Station Crescent I Ashford I Middlesex TW15 3HN
T. 01784 250305 I www.ashford-park.surrey.sch.uk



















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we can only have children on site if we have enough staff, including first aid trained staff, to do it safely. This has been a real challenge and like our school community, staff have had to shield and self - isolate. We are also very thankful to all of those parents who have returned key worker places to us where either a partner has been able to work from home, the other parent is not a key worker or they have been able to make alternative arrangements.

Thank you for your continued kindness and patience. Kind regards,

S. J James

Mrs Sarah Tarrant













