



19th June 2020

Clandon School Newsletter

Dear Families

It has been a lovely couple of weeks because, since my last newsletter, we have been able to welcome more children back to school. We are now at full capacity with all staff deployed to a bubble and everyone working well together to welcome and settle the children. I am enormously proud of our team and how well they have managed this transition which is, of course, a big step for all.

Many thanks to all the children too, they have been amazing and have followed new routines and rules to the letter; they are a credit to you.

We have not forgotten that many our pupils remain at home for the time being. We wish that we could have everyone back and that everything could be normal, but we are not able to do safely just yet. I remain hopeful that in September restrictions will be lifted further and Clandon School can get back to the journey we embarked upon last September, which I for one was very much enjoying.

Life at School:

As we welcome children back to school the phrase 'same storm, different boat' seems very apt. It becomes clear that every family and every child has weathered this crisis quite differently. Some have enjoyed an extended holiday, they may not have accessed much in the way of learning but have enjoyed time with their family, some have been wild and free, outdoors come rain or shine (luckily, mostly shine), others have taken home school very seriously and have progressed enormously. There is no judgement from us, however you have managed your child will have developed and progressed and there is more to life than the narrow measures of the curriculum.

However, for some children this period at home has been one of anxiety, of uncertainty and of loss. There is much to work through to bring some understanding and acceptance of what has occurred.

So, teachers are faced with their most difficult challenge to date; how to be all things to all people. They are using their creativity, professionalism and all their energies to provide just what each child needs right now. I trust these teachers implicitly to make those decisions for each child. If your child comes home and says they have completed some writing, a small amount of mathematics and then they went for a walk in Clandon Park to see the ducks, you can be assured that each part of that day was valuable and each activity met the needs of your child.

As part of our risk assessment we have agreed that, where possible, activities must take place outside. This is because the risk of transmission is reduced. Personally, this is music to my ears as I think children should be outside as much as possible and that there are numerous lessons best taught in the great outdoors! Fortunately, the weather, until yesterday, has been kind.

Gentle Reminder: please can I remind all parents whose children are attending school to order their child's lunch on the Innovate website. There is no additional food provided and we do not want anyone hungry!



What is happening at home?






Home learners, you are all amazing! We are only too aware of the struggle of educating your own child at home. I have been teaching for decades but teaching my own children is far harder than teaching yours! Most of you are not trained teachers and none of you could have anticipated weeks of juggling your own life whilst home schooling. We are in awe of you all.

Teachers continue to set learning challenges and activities for all children at home and we have received some outstanding work and some lovely feedback; thank you!

Please remember that most teachers are now back in school for much of the week and so may be a little slower to respond to your emails or phone calls. If something is urgent please contact the School Office in the first instance, or email me

head@shere.surrey.sch.uk

Here is a taste of some the incredible learning experiences you are providing at home:

		<p>SOMETIMES YOU WILL NEVER KNOW THE VALUE OF A MOMENT UNTIL IT BECOMES MEMORY.</p> <p>- Dr. Seuss</p>
	<p>The Lockdown</p> <p>Once upon a poem – the end, it's all so quiet, no cars, or airplanes just dogs barking and birds singing.</p> <p>Lockdown is hard and stressful We don't know how are loved ones are I miss my friends so much.</p> <p>Lockdown, no school, home tutoring It's hard on me and my mum I miss my friends so much</p> <p>Lockdown, is all about the NHS Saving peoples lives and helping people in need I miss my friends so much</p> <p>Lockdown, Sainsburys and Tesco are doing their best Providing food to those in need Teachers, delivery men, postmen are helping too When will I see my friends</p> <p>Lockdown, hopefully it will end soon I want to get out and seem my family and friends When will it end</p> <p>Once upon a poem – oh, it is the end now</p>	
<p>Learning is not the product of teaching. Learning is the product of the activity of learners.</p> <p>John Holt</p>		

Plans for September:

Whilst we don't quite know what September holds, we certainly need to be ready for it when it arrives. Plans are in place for our classes and our teaching structure is slotting into place. We are currently advertising for a Class teacher for Squirrels Class, this will be for a Friday when Mrs Toone does not work. I am pleased to tell you that we have been inundated with great candidates, once the recruitment process is complete, I will update you on this new appointment.

Please find below our School Plan for September:

Rabbits Class Reception and Year One	Mrs Lucy Saunders	Mrs Fatma Sun Fatma joins Clandon from Shere School, an amazing practitioner with a passion for the Early Years!
Badgers Class Year Two and Three	Mrs Jen Eldridge and Mrs Yvette Webb	Mrs Carolyn Clarke
Squirrels Year Three and Four	Mrs Emma Toone	Mrs Liz Bailey
Kestrels Year Five and Six	Mrs Ellie Morton	Advertised Vacancy

The Nurture Unit:

Our successful bid to the Local Authorities Local Learning Fund has allowed us to create our own Nurture Unit at Clandon. Here children will be able to access bespoke learning programmes and support for their mental health needs. This will be a tremendous resource and one we hope to build on in the future. When we meet the bespoke needs of all learners, including those with special educational needs, everyone in the school enjoys are more harmonious and productive learning environment. I am so excited about this new addition to our provision.

Mrs Gina Habgood Gina is Gina who we all know and love. An amazing advocate for children and a specialist in building trusting relationships!	Mrs Lisa Brooks Lisa is a qualified therapist and joins us from Shere School	Mrs Deborah Young Deborah is a qualified Forest School Leader and specialises in supporting children's mental health. She joins Clandon from Shere School.
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If you do have any questions about the structure for next year, or perhaps you are interested in one of the roles we currently have on offer, please be in touch. I may be slightly biased by I genuinely believe that this is a brilliant teaching team and can't wait to see it in action from September.

My thanks for your continued support.
Warmest Wishes,
Vicky Voller