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Head Teacher: Mrs. S. Stephenson School Business Manager: Mrs. A. Pitchford Chair of Governors: Ms. C. Jones



## Dear Parents/Carers,

Just a short while ago, we were anticipating moving forwards to Step 4 of the government's 'Roadmap out of Lockdown' that would end COVID restrictions. However, we now know that this is not the case. As we are well aware, there has been a rise in COVID cases locally, due to the increasing spread of the Delta variant. As a result, schools have been advised to limit activities to ensure that they remain as COVID-secure as possible. Following announcements from the Department for Education, guidance has been published about what activities are now able to take place in school during these final few weeks.

Last week, a letter went out to the parents of Year 6 pupils from Shropshire Council, cancelling transitional visits and open days. Secondary schools are currently exploring alternatives and parents/carers will be kept informed.

Our Reception intake days will no longer take place as planned to avoid mixing bubbles from different nurseries. However, opportunities will be provided for new pupils to meet their teachers and we are planning a staggered start at the beginning of next term for Reception children to ease them in to their new lives as Barrow pupils. A letter will go out to the parents/carers of the new intake today, outlining plans.

Outdoor events are permissible but we have been advised to limit these to pupils and staff only. In line with this advice - together with the fact that we have a bubble currently in isolation – it has been decided that the barbeque for Oak Class will now go ahead for pupils only. This is obviously disappointing to those parents/carers who were looking forward to joining us in school. However, I'm sure that everyone understands the need to minimise the risk to pupils, staff, families and the wider community. We remain hopeful that Year 6 parents/carers will be able to attend the Graduation Ceremony on 21<sup>st</sup> July, if restrictions are lifted by this date.

Oak Class are busy rehearsing for their performance of 'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies' which is packed with humour and, I have to say, brilliantly cast!. It will be filmed 'on location' in the school grounds and forest and this will be shared with pupils and Year 5/6 parents/carers. A live performance for Ash class, to take place outside, is planned for the final week of term.

Many thanks to all of you for continuing to observe social distancing and wearing a face covering (unless exempt) on the school site. Let us all hope that on 19th July the government releases good news and the data is such that we are able to plan for a return to normal school life in September.

Special thoughts and warmest wishes go out to the families and staff of Yew Tree Class, this week, and we look forward to welcoming them back to school on Friday.

Yours sincerely, Sian Stephenson (Headteacher)

Date	Event
21-25/06/2021	Energise Week
24/06/2021	Harry Potter Book Night – Ash & Oak (separate
	bubbles)
25/06/2021	Oak Class BBQ – Oak pupils and staff
02/07/2021	Oak Class Forest Day and Camp-out
06/07/2021	Next year's teacher spends time with Children
07/07/2021	Sports Day
12/07/2021	Sports Day (contingency)
16/07/2021	Annual Reports to parents/carers
21/07/2021	Year 6 Graduation Ceremony
21/07/2021	Last day of Term















