



17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents,

With just more week to go school feels a little strange, as we are acutely aware that there so many children are missing and because normally at this time of the year we have lots of exciting activities for the children to enjoy as they mark the closure on one academic year and look forward to their summer holidays. However, hopefully all the children will begin to feel the buzz of excitement of returning to school in September now that they know which 'learning bubbles' they will be in for the foreseeable future. We also appreciate that this may cause other feelings, such as anxiety, so have attached a leaflet and included a number of links to help you support your children with any worries that they may have.

<https://www.annafreud.org/media/12095/final-selfcaresummer-primary.pdf>

<https://nipinthebud.org/information-films/tips-for-returning-to-school/>

[https://www.traumainformedschools.co.uk/images/preparing\\_your\\_child\\_for\\_the\\_return\\_to\\_school.jpg](https://www.traumainformedschools.co.uk/images/preparing_your_child_for_the_return_to_school.jpg)

Unfortunately due to the current Government Guidelines for schools around Covid restrictions and social distancing we will still need to keep the children in their specific learning bubbles at lunchtime. We would like the children to see this as a positive opportunity to widen their social circles as we want all children at the Willows to be friendly with everyone. They will, however, be able to see and talk to their friends in other bubbles across tapes and cone boundaries on the playground and fields. With this in mind we would like to place one Mid Day Assistant with each learning bubble for the duration of dinner time. This means that we require additional staffing from 11.45am to 1.15pm every day. If there is any parent or other adult family member who would like to work for us either every day, a couple of days a week or just on an ad hoc basis for at least the first half of the Autumn term @ £9.19 per hour and subject to a successful safeguarding check, please contact Mrs Warren either by email at [willows.admin@trafford.gov.uk](mailto:willows.admin@trafford.gov.uk) or by phone on 0161 908 7685 for further details.

Having had successful 'Zoom calls' to meet new nursery and reception parents in place of 'Information Evenings' this week, our thoughts turn to supporting the children with the transitions to their new learning bubbles. Next week we will implement a number of strategies to help children both at home and at school to 'meet' their new teachers. Children in school will receive a zoom call from their new teachers and maybe a wave from doorways or in corridors, children at home will receive a visit from their new teachers when they attend their last after school meeting. New Nursery and new Reception children will have a programme of transition visits and zoom calls in September. Teachers will also post messages on Tapestry and SeeSaw introducing themselves and welcoming everyone to their new learning bubbles. We are all hoping that the exclusivity of the new learning bubbles will be short lived and that we can return to registration classes and children experiencing a combination of learning groups and mixed age activities as well as being able to mingle in the playground as soon as possible.

We received a lovely surprise in the staffroom this morning. A parent had entered the Willows staff into a competition at Dunelm to say 'Thank You' to key workers, and we won!! A wonderful delivery of kitchen ware arrived ready for us to use in September. Thank you Mrs C.



On that positive note, I will finish for the week and be in touch with you for the last time this academic year next Friday. Have a good weekend.

Take care,

Mrs Warren

