



Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## RE: End of School Year 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Important messages for parents/carers:**

- Term ends for all pupils, with the exception of children of Key Worker families, on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.
- Term ends for children of Key Worker families at 12:30pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July.
- **The Autumn term commences for pupils in Years 1-6 on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September.**
- Pupil reports and information about your child's new class will be issued to parents electronically today for Years 1-6 and Friday for Reception, and you will receive an e-mail notification.
- Children's exercise books will be returned to them when they return to school in September. The school will not keep any exercise books beyond Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

This is certainly not how I imagined how the school year would end back in September. The coronavirus pandemic has affected us all in some way and I would like to offer my thoughts and condolences to families within our Claycots community who may have been impacted in some way by the virus.

From June, pupils in key year groups returned to school and I have been deeply impressed with the positivity that the children have displayed. I have also been very impressed by the way in which our families have engaged with home learning and our Twitter challenges. I very much look forward to September, when the school will be able to welcome all pupils back and, when our pupils do return, we have planned to support their transition back into school through a focus on the Recovery Curriculum which focuses on helping children to return to school and feel safe and able to engage in their learning. We will also be offering a broad curriculum to our pupils, with a focus on reading, writing and mathematics.

In September, our Year 6 pupils make their transition to secondary school. Whilst this is not how I imagined we would say good bye to them, I wish our Year 6 children the very best success, happiness and health in the future. These pupils have worked incredibly hard and should be proud of their achievements at Claycots, and they will be missed by the staff.

This year, we are also saying good bye to a number of staff members. The following teaching staff are embarking on pastures new. Miss Wynn and Miss McCrimmon are both returning home, Miss Smart and Mrs Moss are undertaking new challenges, and Miss Patel has secured a teaching position in a school close to her home. Mr How is also moving on to pastures new and I would like to thank him for his commitment to providing outdoor education opportunities to our pupils. Each one of these teachers has contributed to the Town Hall Campus and, on behalf of the school community, I would like to express our gratitude to them and wish them every success in the future. Mrs Hathway has also started maternity leave and we congratulate her on the new addition to her family. She will be returning to Claycots next year.

We are also saying farewell to a number of leaders. Mr Rees has been appointed to a Phase Leader position in a school close to his home. Mr Rees has been a dedicated member of staff in the time he has worked at the Town Hall, both as the Year 5 and 6 leader, and I am confident that he will be successful in his new leadership role. Mr Reffell, the school's Sports Development Manager, is moving to a new and exciting challenge, working in a school on the south coast. Mr Reffell has promoted the physical education of pupils at Claycots and has inspired a passion for sports within our pupils. I wish him every success in

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his new role, and happiness with his relocation. Mrs Perkins is moving on to a Deputy Headteacher position in a Catholic school. Mrs Perkins has overseen Key Stage 1 for the last three years, and I would like to thank her for her commitment and I wish her every success in her new leadership role. After 8 years at Claycots, both as a teacher and more recently as a senior leader, Mrs Kalamaj has also secured a Deputy Headship. Mrs Kalamaj has brought a passion for Early Years to our school, and I am in no doubt that she will be an asset to her new school. Finally, I am delighted for Mr Leech who has secured his first Headship in a primary school close to where he grew up. Mr Leech has been an exceptional Deputy Headteacher and I am confident that he will flourish in his new role as a Headteacher and make a real difference to the children and families in his new school. On behalf of the Town Hall Campus community, I would like to extend my gratitude and well wishes to these leaders and sincerely wish them every success and happiness in the future.

In September, we look forward to welcoming a newly appointed Deputy Headteacher, Mr Barnes, to the Town Hall Campus. Mr Barnes is an experienced senior leader currently working in a school in Hayes and he will bring a wealth of experiences to the school. The Town Hall Campus also plans to recruit for a second Deputy Headteacher in the Autumn term to further strengthen the leadership team.

The school has retained a number of established staff members this year, yet we are also adding to our team through the appointment of new teachers. We look forward to welcoming the following teachers to Claycots in September, the majority of whom have already met our pupils: Miss Dews, Mrs Jeyarajah, Miss Jarman, Miss Ruthven, Miss Gondhia, Miss Anderson and Miss Law.

I am also pleased to welcome Mr Dorimain who will be the Year 4 Leader. Mr Dorimain is currently a Year Group Leader at the Britwell Campus so understands our school very well. We are also looking forward to welcoming Mrs Palanivel back from maternity leave in November.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to our staff who have worked hard this year, including supporting the return of pupils to school and home learning, but also to our families, who have given the school support especially in the last few months. I look forward to welcoming you all back in September, although in the meantime, wish you a restful, happy and safe summer holidays.

Yours sincerely,

Mr L Graham  
Headteacher