Friday 20th March 2020

Dear parent/carer

At this challenging time, I just wanted to write to you all to say a big thank you for all your support and positive comments over the last few weeks. My first year at Ravenfield has been amazing so far and I have loved getting to know the wonderful children and families. This is a very special school and I feel proud and privileged to be part of it. The children have been a pleasure to be with every day. Their enthusiasm for learning and the generous way in which they share their experiences and stories with each other has meant that I have also learnt a lot!

Can I also take this opportunity to pay tribute to the wonderful staff at our school. The whole team has worked tirelessly over the last few weeks to keep things as normal as possible. I know that you appreciate their efforts for the children as much as I do.

I am so disappointed, as I know you will be, that many of the events, activities and experiences, which we have planned for the near future, have now had to be postponed or cancelled and will not go ahead. I am especially upset about the impact on our Year 6 children, who have worked so hard and will miss part of their final year having been here for nearly seven years. Along with their parents and carers, they are such an important part of Ravenfield Primary Academy. I know that we can find a way to mark their end of an era before they move up into the next stage of their education. I have spoken to the children and promised them that we will plan a special leaver’s assembly as soon as we can.

Whilst the children are not attending school, we do not want the hard work they have undertaken so far to be forgotten or to stop so we have set up a new online platform which the children can access daily with activities they can do whilst at home. Each day their class teacher will add five new activities (either online based or more hands on) which they can do at home. You will all receive the direct email to each teacher and feel free to contact them at any time with any concerns/support you need whilst the children are not attending school. Your children in Key Stage 2 have all been given individual emails so that they can receive communication from teachers and email work to them. We are all still working, although not face to face with the children, and will support you wherever we can.

Keep in regular touch we would also love to hear about any achievements and adventures they are getting up to whilst not attending school. We are all going to miss the children whilst they are not in school, their smiles and enthusiasm for learning make our school the wonderful place it is. I know that over the next period, however long we are not open to everyone, you will value the precious time with your children and families. Please take care and stay safe and we will be in touch and keep you updated as regularly as possible with news and information as it comes out.

Thank you so much for all that you do for the children and our school.

Practical information

* We will communicate regularly with all parents. If you ever need greater clarity about anything please to not hesitate to get in touch through the usual channels. As you will appreciate we are only able initially to make short term plans so if anything changes rest assured we will communicate with parents as a priority.
* We will be open for the children designated in the Government’s statement this week, please ensure that we are aware that you are sending your child. info@ravenfieldprimaryacademy.com
* We have planned for school to start and finish at the normal time and children can be dropped off as usual.
* For all children at home teachers will set work daily, they will receive 5 tasks everyday and can communicate with their teacher about the tasks. The teacher will mark the tasks and feedback on a regular basis. (please note if your child’s teacher is in school the time these tasks will be set might vary slightly)
* Children will also come home with a pack for home learning today. If your child is currently absent from school today then their pack can be picked up on Monday morning after 9am. Come to reception.
* If your child is entitled to free school meals we have initially organised that they can come to school between 12-1pm to pick up a ‘grab bag’ but then they must take this away to eat it. I will keep you up to date if this changes at all.
* There will be no breakfast club until further notice.

Thank you once again for your continued support

Take care and see you soon

Caroline Coates

Principal