



June 2020

Dear Parents,

Home Learning

Thankyou to all parents for your efforts with home learning. We know how challenging this has been. It has been a learning curve for us all.

Despite what you may have read in the media, the overwhelming majority of primary schools do not have learning platforms set up that enable them to offer live / interactive /remote lessons. Following guidance and a number of other reasons (mainly to do with safeguarding) we are not able to offer 'Zoom' lessons: it is not simply a case of setting up a laptop and teaching. However, the government are offering grants to a small number of schools to set up a learning platform. We have applied for the grant for the use of Microsoft teams. This is not something that will happen for some time yet.

At the moment, all staff are prioritising setting work for children, communicating with parents via dojo, working with and keeping safe the increasing number of children in school, as well as starting to plan for September, in whatever shape or form this may take – we are waiting for Government guidance on this (which schools only receive at the same time as you do from the daily Government briefings).

Pastoral support

Mrs Walters and Mrs Blake are still available for telephone support for children and parents. If you would like to speak to them, please call the school office.

Year 6

We have loved seeing our year 6 children back in school over the past few weeks and it was nice to be able to say our goodbyes. This is a year group that we will never forget! The staff and children have been busy making a DVD of their memories for them to keep. These will be available for parents to collect at the end of term. Further details to follow.

Ashbourne Primary School

Headteacher: Miss Paula Whysall

Chair of Governors: Ashley Tabony



Staffing

Mrs Dell

After 13 years at Parkside/Ashbourne Primary, Mrs Dell is retiring. Mrs Dell has been instrumental in many changes and seen the school go from strength to strength. The staff and children will miss her very much. She is an outstanding member of staff and incredibly dedicated to our school and doing the very best for our pupils. Mrs Dell will continue to support the school and oversee the school's curriculum work.

Mrs Roe

After 19 years at Parkside/Ashbourne Primary, Mrs Roe is also retiring. Mrs Roe is best known for her love of outdoors and science. She has taught around 600 children during her time here and devoted her time to ensuring the very best for each of them. The staff and children will miss her very much.

Miss Valentine

Miss Valentine has returned from maternity leave. In September she will be working 2.5 days a week.

The staffing structure for September has not been finalised due to the Covid virus. As soon as we have further information from the government regarding September opening, we will inform you of the staffing structure and your child's class teacher.

Reports to parents

You will receive your child's report in July, giving you information about how your child was getting on at school from September to March.

Kind regards,

Paula Whysall
Headteacher