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8<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you all know, we had to make the decision to move our school to only being open for key worker children and those with complex SEND during this current lockdown. Like all of you, we are hoping that we can fully re-open soon to all the York Road children, to start new -Pre-School children that are waiting to begin and to settle in our new Pink Group that are currently doing taster sessions.

I want to reassure you all that the Senior Leadership Team and Governing body have been in frequent discussions around when we can open again safely.

Headteachers have not yet received any information about when that will be. Like you all, we have only been told by the Government that the 8<sup>th</sup> of March is a desired date. As soon as we all know then we can put our plans into action.

What we hope to be able to offer is a couple of sessions in-between when we are told we can fully open and when the actual date is (the Government promised schools a 2-week notice period), so that your child can come and spend time in their room with their Teacher and to re-connect after what seems like such a long time away from their friends.

I am sure you will all agree that for those children who have been at home all this time, they need to rediscover and get used to being back in the York Road environment again. Hopefully, a couple of sessions before the full re-opening will be supportive and help them and you all to feel safe. Once we know the full re-opening date, your child's Teacher will inform you of the visit dates, hopefully soon after half term.

***For Pre-School children we also plan some visit sessions and some settling in sessions for new children- please keep an eye out for communication on dates.***

Thank you to all of you who are keeping in touch with your child's Teacher- they are so pleased to chat on the 'phone to you or receive an email or Tapestry update and the Teachers are delighted with the recent increase of participants on the zoom teaching experiences! We are amazed by the wonderful things happening at home.

We have also added a Remote Learning page on the school website for further information.

It is such an incredibly stressful time for everyone now, for all of you as parents as well as for my staff team- we truly empathise with those juggling work, family, home and simply just coping right now. We all miss you dreadfully and I personally cannot wait to have 120 families piling through the gates again!

Don't forget it is half term next week, so the school staff will be having a very well earned rest- so there will not be any zoom sessions or Tapestry posts from them! Yorkies is open and we are delighted that we can have the wonderful Yorkies team back in for the week.

If any of you are struggling emotionally or financially, please talk to me your child's Teacher- I am sure there will be some way, we can support you...you never know.

Keep safe, be kind and keep warm!

*Diane Frainer, Headteacher*

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