

17 July 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need." –
Marcus Tullius Cicero

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has truly been an academic year that will live long in the memory. As it draws to a close this Friday 17 July 2020 and with children not due to return until Thursday 3 September, there are a number of important messages I need to share with you.

September Re-opening

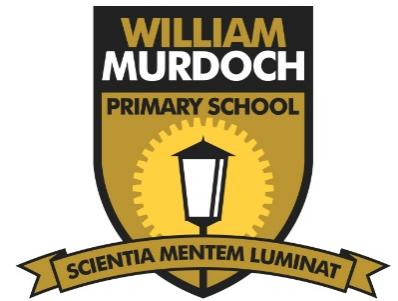
I wrote to you last week about a proposal to close the school early on Friday afternoon for a temporary period in light of the coronavirus pandemic. This would allow the school to undertake a deep clean of the school on Friday and strictly limit the number of external supply teachers who ordinarily work across a number of schools. I am grateful to everyone who contributed to the consultation on this proposal. We are currently consulting with Birmingham City Council about this and I will write to you again early next week to confirm all the arrangements that will be put in place to ensure a safe return for pupils and staff.

Leader of the Council

Please find attached a letter from the Leader of the Council, Councillor Ian Ward, and Cabinet Members Councillor Jayne Francis and Councillor Kate Booth regarding the return in September of Birmingham school children.

Blazer drop-off

There are many children who will now no longer need their blazer because it is too big for them, they are leaving school or moving to secondary school etc. We are mindful that although the blazer represents excellent value for money and is a compulsory item of the school uniform, it is the most expensive item and there are families who would benefit from the recycling of the blazer. We are therefore organising a blazer drop off and collection facility. If your child no longer needs their blazer, please wash the blazer according to the instructions on the label and place in a black bag. Label the bag with the size of the blazer (e.g. size 28) and



drop the bag off with the member of staff at the Albert Road gates between 11.00am and 11.15am on Monday 20 July 2020.

Depending on the response to this initiative, we will hopefully be in a position to email a date and time for blazers to be collected. These would be distributed on a first come first served basis. Many thanks in advance for considering this initiative to not only support families at this difficult time but helping to limit waste.

Musical Instrument Return

A number of children still have a musical instrument that was borrowed from Birmingham City Council's Music Services. These instruments must be returned. We would like you to drop off the instrument at the Albert Road gates to the member of staff between 11.00am and 11.15am on Monday 20 July 2020.

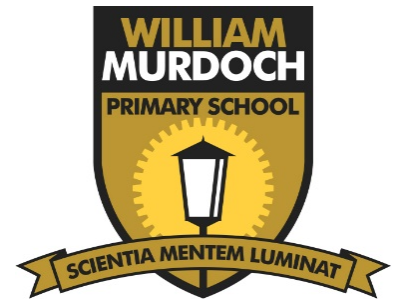
Edenred Free School Meal Vouchers

Following the DfE's decision to extend the scheme, Edenred Free School Meal vouchers will be delivered via email on Monday 20 July 2020 to all those eligible. These vouchers will be worth £90 per pupil and cover the 6-week summer holiday period.

SIMS Pay

From September 2020, the school will no longer be accepting cash payments. All payments must be made via our online payment system 'SIMS Pay'. We hope that you will find paying in this way more convenient and from our perspective it will save us time as well as reduce the chances of money being lost or stolen. 'SIMS Pay' is very easy-to-use and will offer you the flexibility to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - safe in the knowledge that payments are secure with the highest level of card security and that funds will reach the school safely. In addition to paying online, SIMS Pay also offers you the chance to make payment in person via PayPoint and Post Offices.

Further information on dinner costs and toast snack prices, and how to set up your account can be found in the document attached titled SIMS Pay.



Summer Projects

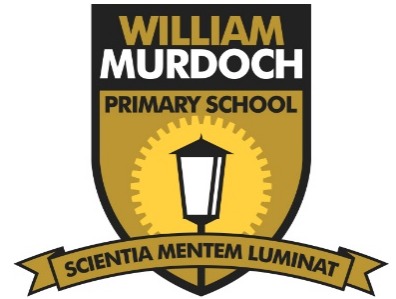
Summer projects for each year group have been designed and finalised and will be put on the relevant home learning page of the school website on Monday 20 July 2020. The projects form part of our curriculum recovery programme and will be based on the Humanities units which the pupils have missed over the past few months. The projects are split into six separate activities; one each for the six weeks of the summer holidays. The projects must be submitted on Class Dojo on Thursday 3rd September.

Online Learning

Whilst pupils should of course rest and relax over their summer holidays, it is vitally important that they also continue to do some school work so they are ready to hit the ground running in September, particularly considering the learning that has been missed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As mentioned above, all pupils have been set a summer project which should be submitted via Class Dojo in September. Pupils will also continue to have access to the home learning resources, including teacher videos, which have been put in the COVID-19 section of the school website over the past few months. We encourage everyone to have a go at any tasks they have not yet had the opportunity to complete. Additionally, pupils will keep their access to online learning platforms including Times Tables Rock Stars, I Am Learning and MyMaths.

Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022 Mascot Competition

The Birmingham 2022 mascot will be a global icon for the Games. The organisers are looking for children across the country to design their own mascot. The winning design will inspire the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games' official mascot and be in with a chance of winning family tickets to the Opening Ceremony on 28th July 2022. The mascot should represent the identity, heritage, and culture of the Commonwealth Games, Birmingham and the West Midlands, and embody everything the city and region stand for: youthful, diverse, dynamic and creative, always looking to innovate and move forward. Further details on the competition and how to enter can be found here <https://www.birmingham2022.com/mascot>.



Year 6 Graduation

On Wednesday 15 July 2020 we had the privilege and pleasure of holding a socially distanced graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020. The event was hugely successful, and I must take the opportunity to commend pupils and parents for adherence to the safety protocols. Without your support the event could not have been held. I would also like to again pass on my congratulations to the Class of 2020 and wish the Year 6 pupils the very best in their new school. Mr Harris has put together a short video of some of the highlights of Year 6's journey through school and it can be accessed using the following link <https://youtu.be/I564gLEJoXA>.

Stay safe. Stay well

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Singh'.

Mr M Singh
Headteacher