

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.
– Aristotle

Dear Parents/Carers,

School Reopening Update

I hope the half-term break has treated you and your families well.

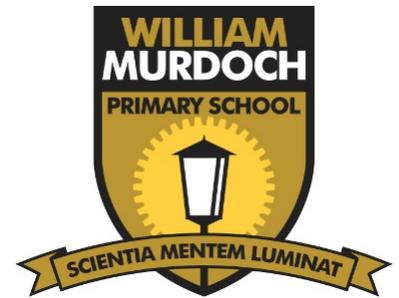
Further to my letter to you last week, the current position around the potential wider opening of William Murdoch Primary School remains unchanged. **William Murdoch Primary School will not be opening more widely on the 1 June 2020.** The Independent SAGE group (an independent group of scientists) has confirmed that the risk is still too high to reopen on 1 June 2020 but that the risk will halve by 15 June 2020 and will be close to zero by September. We will maintain a cautious approach. The process is very complex and we continue to assess a range of measures to reduce the risk to pupils and staff. Their safety is our top priority.

Free School Meal Vouchers/Edenred

The Schools Minister, Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, announced earlier this week that the government, having previously stated that Free School Meal (FSM) vouchers would not be issued for the half term break, would now be issuing them. For all those eligible for FSM vouchers, there will now be two vouchers issued to cover the weeks commencing 25 May 2020 and 1 June 2020. We apologise for the inconvenience but as you can see the matter has been out of our hands.

Home Learning - CGP Workbooks

With nearly 95% of parents surveyed wanting their children to remain at home we have made some changes to the way we approach home learning. The main platform for remote learning remains through the COVID-19 section of the school website. However, we have purchased for all our pupils in Reception to Year 6, a range of CGP workbooks including books covering Maths, English, Science and History, although the range of books differs for each year group. Your child's teacher will set out the work that needs to be completed in these workbooks every Monday through the weekly home learning update on the COVID-19 section of the school website. The books will be distributed on Wednesday 2 June and Thursday 3 June 2020 at the times listed below. If you are collecting for more than one child in your family, you will be able to collect all their workbooks during the first slot that applies to any of your children. Access to the site will be via the Albert Road gate only. There will be one-way system where you enter through one gate and out through another. Markers will be placed at two metre distances and you will be asked to wait at one of these markers. The timings below will help stagger the number of people on the site at any one time so please do try to stick to them:



Wednesday 3 June 2020 – Upper School

YEAR 3		YEAR 4		YEAR 5		YEAR 6	
Y3.1	10.00am	Y4.1	11.00am	Y5.1	1.00pm	Y6.1	2.00pm
Y3.2	10.20am	Y4.2	11.20am	Y5.2	1.20pm	Y6.2	2.20pm
Y3.3	10.40am	Y4.3	11.40am	Y5.3	1.40pm	Y6.3	2.40pm

Thursday 4 June 2020 – Lower School

RECEPTION		YEAR 1		YEAR 2	
R.1	10.00am	Y1.1	11.00am	Y2.1	1.00pm
R.2	10.20am	Y1.2	11.20am	Y2.2	1.20pm
R.3	10.40am	Y1.3	11.40am	Y2.3	1.40pm

Well-being Telephone Calls

We are further improving our communication with you and your children. You and your child will receive a call between 10.00am and 2.00pm on either Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of each week which will show on your phone as **No Caller ID**. The purpose of this call is to do a general check, get an update on home learning and is a way to let children know that as a school we are still here for them.

In my next letter to you I will update you on other improvements in home learning, including the use of videos and Zoom technology to increase the amount of direct teaching, further support for SEN pupils and more information about transition arrangements for Nursery, Reception and Year 6 pupils.

Stay safe. Stay well.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Singh
Headteacher