Dear Families,

I hope you had a good Bank Holiday and enjoyed the weather on Friday and Saturday.

**Staff contact:**

I hope you and your child(ren) have enjoyed having contact with the teachers during the week. I know they will not have spoken to every family so if you haven’t had a call, do expect one in the next week or so.

I recorded a video message on Thursday which is on the website and aim to do more if possible. I am not a performer and apologise if the quality isn’t great but I’ve tried something which I find challenging; I might learn a few things – a good lesson for the children that adults can develop themselves too!

**Book swap**

Today is the second of the book swaps and it is a bit more open as there was no rush and parents who attended were great at adhering to the social distancing. You can come through the nursery playground into the hall anytime from 10-12 and pick up sets of books to help your children read.

Some parents were picking up books for multiple families; if you are finding it difficult to come out to get books do let us know through [admin@greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk). We have now put out some books for older readers too if they want something different. Please see our website for further details.

**The future**

You have probably heard all the speculation about re-opening schools over the past few weeks and what this will look like. I have been considering different scenarios but it wasn’t until last night that the Prime Minister indicated proposals for reopening should certain conditions be met.

The major concern is the safety of families, children and staff. Reopening will take a lot of planning and all members of our school community must be kept safe. I will be asking for your questions and thoughts later this week.

**SATs week**

This week was supposed to be SATs week. Year six might actually be disappointed not to be able to demonstrate how much they have learnt and developed since being at the school. We hope you (and the rest of the school community) are keeping safe and well!

Lastly, thank you for the great positive feedback about the home learning we have been providing, it is really appreciated.

Richard Brown

Headteacher

**Previous information sent to us from the county to pass onto you:**

**Children left at home on their own**

There is national guidance for parents in the document - [Closure of educational settings: information for parents and carers](file:///C:\Windows\ie\TempInt\cy281\Content.Outlook\0E8B3BYK\0F7301C1-350B-4A79-BED9-9717826DF2B0.WAV). It provides government advice on the law on leaving children unattended. There is no law about when a parent can leave your child on their own but it is an offence to leave them alone if it places them at risk. Parents should use their judgement on how mature their child is before they decide to leave them at home.

Parents can be prosecuted if they leave a child alone ‘in a manner likely to cause unnecessary suffering or injury to health’. The NSPCC recommends that children under 12 are rarely mature enough to be left alone for a long period of time, children under 16 should not be left alone overnight and babies, toddlers and very young children should never be left alone.

**Children and young people’s mental health and wellbeing**

The DfE has published on [updated guidance on school closures](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing).  All NHS mental health trusts are setting up 24/7 helplines, and seeking to use digital and virtual channels, to continue delivering support during the pandemic.  Social connections, alongside exercise, sleep, diet and routine are important protective factors for mental health. Resources to promote and support mental wellbeing are included in the [list of online resources](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education/) DfE has published to help children to learn at home. Public Health England has also published [guidance on supporting children and young people’s mental health](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing).

Digital support includes:

·         [Minded educational resources](https://www.minded.org.uk/) for adults about children and young people’s mental health, which is relevant for teachers, other professionals working with children, volunteers, parents and carers

·         the [Every Mind Matters platform](https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/), from Public Health England, about looking after your mental health

·         [Rise Above](https://riseabove.org.uk/), targeted at young people, which also has [schools-facing lesson plans](https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools/topics/rise-above/overview)

**Scams**

There have been reports of calls from somebody claiming to be from Public Health England, asking residents if they had received their letter from the government and then asking if they have support from family and friends, etc. and trying to obtain personal details – please remind people to be vigilant around sharing details.

<https://theictservice.org.uk/service/online-safety-advice-for-parents-during-school-closures/?utm_source=The+ICT+Service&utm_campaign=2d10493553-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_02_02_57&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_2d66a93e78-2d10493553-40627091>

**Online safety**

Whilst the school is closed and children are using online learning more I thought it was pertinent to send this link which provides advice for families about online learning. Families may be concerned over cyber-bullying and this link provides good advice for monitoring what your children send and receive and the permissions they have.

<https://theictservice.org.uk/service/online-safety-advice-for-parents-during-school-closures/?utm_source=The+ICT+Service&utm_campaign=2d10493553-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_02_02_57&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_2d66a93e78-2d10493553-40627091>

**Early Years Key Worker provision**

Schools, childminders and early years settings across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough remain open and are working hard to look after those children deemed vulnerable, and those of key workers. A dedicated team is now on hand to signpost parents to available options, including childcare provided by nurseries and childminders. If you are a critical worker and in need of childcare support, please contact the Family Information Service on:

* Cambridgeshire – 0345 045 1360
* Peterborough – 01733 864446 or visit the [website](http://tracking.vuelio.co.uk/tracking/click?d=4OJ77GeXt8dF3YkX1w87bWzakDcZ0wLOYI3dchCHPufDuIWyaJR4o6gcjl1F08ZuzUjjP5jMHCKFfaUsnZ055ZtY3X9kIULeBn0U9a2M47nJW2njnDditfqzA50yuHCBsYYAp9q7heeOLtcBuj0ku-bgttAnQgGZ_Wf6MTk8rz3127QAvpeibdlcO15GLwKknAJzwq53oA1q_ITyUMzP-RM1)

**Primary Pupil Key Worker provision**

We have not had any children in school since Wednesday 25th April but know that circumstances change. Please contact us to help facilitate provision whether in our school or more likely in another but please remember that the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open **only for those children who absolutely** need to attend.

**Supporting vulnerable people and families**

In these very challenging times, all schools across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are working closely with colleagues in Local Authorities to ensure families that are vulnerable or need additional support receive the help they need.

A network of COVID-19 Coordination and Response Hubs have been established, comprising a countywide hub and local hubs led by District/City Councils. The hubs are focussed on providing local support, coordinating community led initiatives, supporting residents, and responding to individual offers of help or requests for support including access to food banks.

The contact detail for our local hub can be found here:  
South Cambridgeshire:[www.scambs.gov.uk/coronavirus/](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/coronavirus/)  
Monday to Friday 08:00-17:30 / [Duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk) / 03450 455 218