



The Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock Schools Federation



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21st July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Since our last letter, the school extended its opening for a greater number of our pupils and families. It was unfortunate that we were not able to provide this offer in our nurseries, but once we had completed risk assessments for our statutory school aged children, and taking into account the guidance from central government, it became clear that after staffing and accommodating our pupils from reception, year 1, year 6 and the rising numbers from critical worker families or those for whom we were providing additional support, we would be at full capacity.

For those pupils who were not able to attend, the school developed an extended and enhanced home schooling offer. Numerous weekly online video lessons were produced by our staff, ranging from French, Geography, PSHE as well as Maths and English. Our Google Classroom service was launched, providing delivery of classroom content, as well as responses from pupils. We continued to provide printed packs for those having difficulties accessing online content.

Each week, extended Whole School Newsletters included further educational tasks, linked directly to our curriculum, as well as contact details for other educational providers and content. Additionally, each year group also received a Keeping in Touch newsletter from class teachers on a weekly basis. The Whole School Newsletters also provided an opportunity for children working at home to share their wonderful learning with the rest of the school community.

Beyond the focus on curriculum, senior staff and class teachers have been contacting all families by phone and both schools now have expanded communications options with parents and carers using Twitter accounts for our schools. Also contact and curriculum content continued to be provided on the websites for each school.

Those children not able to attend since lockdown were all invited into school to see and say goodbye to their current class teachers in the playground and, where possible, meet their new class teachers. As is usual at the end of an academic year, teachers provided an end of year school report for all pupils.

These past four months have been, for parents, pupils and staff, some of the most challenging we had to deal with, yet the response and resilience shown by all within our schools has been truly heartening.

We would like to thank all our families for the continuing support they have provided throughout the year, and especially over the last one and a half terms.



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We wish all our year six leavers a happy and fulfilling time at their next school and look forward to seeing all of our other pupils returning at the start of our new term in September. I know that Miss Gilmore is also writing to you today to update you on arrangements.

In the meantime, please keep yourselves and others safe.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Fidel,
Chair or Govenors
On behalf of the Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock
Schools Federation Governing Body



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