

# The FenHil News

**'Respect, Honesty, Kindness and Collaboration'**

12<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Website: [www.fenstanton-hilton.eschools.co.uk](http://www.fenstanton-hilton.eschools.co.uk)

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Bubble Openings and Thank you**

This week we extended our offer to more children. We currently have up to 25% of our children attending school. Thank you so much to those who are attending for reading the copious letters, following the instructions within them, arriving, and collecting on time and supporting our staff who have been anxious during these unprecedented times. We are so grateful that you have supported us so well. The children have responded really well to the new routines in their bubble, their class teachers are very proud of how they have coped this week. They will be tired this weekend and hope they have a well-deserved rest.

## **Social Distancing**

When you are dropping off and picking up, please please make sure you are socially distancing. We really need you to keep 2m apart from other families and encourage your children to do the same. This is especially important in Year 6, as we are aware that they are the most at risk year group of contracting the virus. We are very strict with social distancing in school to keep children and our staff safe. We are totally reliant on you adhering to guidance so that we can all remain safe. I will have to start warning families if I am aware that they are not following rules, which I really do not want to do. Please follow the guidance to keep everyone safe and anxiety levels down. Let's think of our community and support each other.

## **Home Learning**

Please be aware that most teachers are now in school everyday running a bubble of up to 10 children. This means that whilst there will be work set, responses may not be immediate. The teachers who are currently shielding are overseeing each day to help and support those who are in school.

## **Celebration Assembly**

Today we trialled our first virtual assembly with each class bubble. We were able to celebrate one child's achievements from the week. Class teachers have also selected a child in their class to receive an electronic certificate for fantastic work completed through home learning. If you would like your child to join our celebration assembly each week please email [office@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk) (not via this email) by **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June**. Once we know how many children would like to join, we will email the details to access the assembly.

## **Ofsted Update**

Even during a global pandemic we strive for improvement. Whilst on lockdown we have been working on our curriculum, one subject at a time starting with Geography and History. Each Google classroom receives a virtual 'learning walk' every fortnight with feedback to the teacher on how to improve what they are setting.

Mrs Mitchell, who has been seconded to us continues to work with staff to improve teaching and learning. She has had impact on teacher's delivery and consistency through feedback and support on a regular basis.

Whilst we have not had to complete statutory assessments this year, these remain a part of how we are accountable for standards. We have looked at our assessment systems and it has been identified as part of our School Improvement Plan that we write with the local authority.

We have also tried to keep you up to date as much as we can with communication regarding the school.

## **Reports**

The class teachers have been busy writing your child's end of year report so that you can have the normal feedback. They will be slightly different this year to reflect these different times and in line with government guidelines they will not include an end of year assessment grade but will focus on general comments, English, Mathematics and Science feedback. These will be sent to you during July.

## **Statistics**

<25% of children on role are back in school now.

66% of our office staff are working in school, although not full time.

75% of teaching staff are running a bubble, including 2 part time staff. The rest are shielding and working from home.

50% of our support staff are in school supporting bubbles and covering breaks for the key worker bubble. The rest are shielding at home.

There are 6 bubbles in school at full capacity given the size of our rooms. We do not have the staff to open up any further bubbles currently.

We continue to receive up to date guidance from the Local Authority in terms of how we can safely operate as a school, we will keep you up to date with any changes that we will be making.

Bubbles are now full and whilst I can put children in a waiting list, this may not be a quick resolution. Until clear Government guidance is received this will remain how we run school for the time being.

## **Finally...**

This has been a very anxiety inducing and frankly scary time for us as staff to navigate. We are putting ourselves at risk so that children can come to school. This shows the commitment that the staff have to your children and the positive feedback we have received has made it all worth it. Let's take care of each other, as we navigate the new normal.

Best wishes,

Claire Worth, Headteacher