

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents,

**School will finish for year 6 pupils on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.** This is to enable us to have face to face transition for our new intake of year 3s and complete virtual transition with year 3, 4 and 5 pupils.

If you qualify as a key worker, we will be able to offer childcare for your child on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Please contact the school office to book this in by 1<sup>st</sup> July. **The school will be closed to all pupils on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July** as this will be an INSET for staff to prepare for wider opening in September.

We are beginning to see a small drop in attendance for year 6 pupils. School has never been a choice and you as parents, have always by law had to send your child to school unless there is illness, medical appointment, or leave request submitted.

Our challenge is that attendance is not currently compulsory, so it is impossible for us to enforce it. My concern for our year 6 pupils is that if they develop the habit now, of irregular attendance, this could cause difficulties for them and you as parents in September and beyond. Also, the teachers are working hard to plan sequences of learning for bubbles and when child miss odd days this is hard for them to engage with the learning and challenging for teachers to manage. If your child's attendance is erratic we may need to offer their place to a pupil of a key worker.

As head teacher I strongly believe this a hugely valuable opportunity for our year 6 pupils to continue with their education, have closure on their 4 years at Meon Junior School, as well as take part in transition. A large number of year 6 pupils across the country have not had this opportunity as they belong to a primary school and there was not space to bring them back. As a junior school, we have been able to prioritise our year 6s and I feel it is a shame if this wasted by taking days off.

If your child has been attending school and cannot come in on a day for ANY reason you MUST let us know. With increasing number of pupils to check their whereabouts daily we increase the risk of not acting swiftly enough if a child is missing. This does happen and I have experienced it before. To ensure we can safeguard all children you MUST let us know when your child is not coming in.

Finally, the year 6 team are currently working on plans to be able to give year 6 children the send-off they deserve. We will not be able to invite you onto site personally, but we hope to do something live on Facebook and a presentation on our website.

Please can you complete the following consent, so we know which pupils are able to be put on social media and the website:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=s23q1ha\\_kkmgEHn2jjmNvJX8GCY2FivCukrRF5ct\\_CdUMkZPRVBTWEExSRFIQUJUNDSUIFQzNRVEJETS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=s23q1ha_kkmgEHn2jjmNvJX8GCY2FivCukrRF5ct_CdUMkZPRVBTWEExSRFIQUJUNDSUIFQzNRVEJETS4u)

Warm Regards

Mrs Paine