

Dear Parent/ Carer,

### **The Teachers are Back! 03-07-2020**

We are so pleased to have our full teaching team back in school. We have had a positive response from staff who have now returned to normal working hours. This extra capacity was needed due to the learners improving attendance. Across all year groups we have had increased numbers of children attending each week.

We have a slightly smaller curriculum offering composed of core lessons: English, Maths, Science, ICT and PSHE and a vocational offer of Catering & Hospitality and the Farm both of which are available to all. In the afternoon we deliver slightly more relaxed options, social skills, sport & PE and clubs or activities; a small team is maintaining our online offer which is available to those who are currently unable to attend. We strongly suggest that you send your child into school every day or help him to engage in the online offer so that, as far as is possible, we can keep everybody in the habit of learning.

In the next two weeks we will be preparing boys for the new academic year so as well as reconnecting with friends it will be important for them to meet new class teachers and new classmates before the year ends. Advice and guidance from the Local Authority and from Government and health professionals is that children and young people, like ours, with EHCPs should be in school every day unless they are specifically shielding a family member or if they are unwell.

As lockdown restrictions are being relaxed we are assessing risk and maintaining vigilance. With more staff and learners in the building it is imperative that we are more secure with our expectations around washing hands, maintaining social distance and keeping surfaces clean.

From the boys' perspective it is important that we all keep in mind that their return to education looks a little different and that there have been significant changes in the way we do things in and around the classroom. This change is difficult for everyone and boys may express anxiety in a range of different ways. From a safeguarding perspective we are trying to be mindful of their mental health and emotional wellbeing; noticing when behaviour changes, keeping an eye out for signs of difficulty and creating space for relaxation where we can. If you notice a change in your child or have any concerns please either use the 'Safeguarding Help' button on our webpage or call the school directly to speak with Paula Thomas our Designated Safeguarding lead and SENDCo. If you are concerned about the health and wellbeing of your child or any learner that attends our school please let us help.

The first transition days have happened this week for year 6 learners and several new boys have visited the school to meet their classmates in preparation for September. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know class teachers and begin the process of building new friendships. This should make it easier for all the boys to start reducing the level of anxiety this kind of change can cause. For our year 9s, moving into Key Stage 4, there are introductory lessons with their future form tutor's and subject specialists downstairs. The move for the older boys is easier as they are already familiar with the secondary staff and they are eager to be recognised as older and more mature.

The horticulture area is coming together nicely and the stage is being set for the end of year summer event. We will have fun events for learners as well as the graduation celebration for our year 6, 11 and 6<sup>th</sup> form children. We expect a Pizza oven to be delivered this week and installed on the grounds to further link the farm, horticulture area and the school kitchen as part of the 'Farm to Fork' curriculum development that Josh and the team have been working on for the past few months. We hope to have

a permanent chef in place for September who will continue the work that Narissa from Chefs in Schools has so ably delivered since the start of the COVID-19 crisis. We wish to thank everybody at Chefs in School for making our lives that little bit easier with their skill and compassion. I for one, have thoroughly enjoyed the menu!

Our Outstanding Pupils last week were:

<b>Learning Heroes!</b>	
Key stage 1	
Cherry	Sonny, Mack, Lavelle
Key stage 2	
Willow	Stuart, Harvey
Oak	Tyler, Kevin
Maple	Kayden
Key Stage 3	
Year 7	Tasian, Jay, Jayden
Year 8	Kemar, Brandon and Shay
Year 9	Reece, Luke
Key stage 4	
Year 10	Shaun, Bradley, Kyle
Year 11	Marley

<b>Excellent Attenders 100%!!!</b>	
Key stage 1	
Cherry	Sam, Archie, Sonny, Mack, Lavelle
Key stage 2	
Willow	Stuart, Harvey, Kah'zee
Oak	Ashley, Dorian, Dren, Tyler
Maple	Jerry, Kayden, Alfie
Key Stage 3	
Year 7	Jay and Jaden
Year 8	Kemar and Brandon
Year 9	Reece and Kieran
Key stage 4	
Year 10	Matiewos, Bradley, Shawn, Kavaun Kyle
Year 11	Matthew

I am so proud of our boys who have demonstrated amazing resilience, maturity and genuine kindness and friendship to all of our new learners and visiting families. Our school community is something special and each and every person who attends, works or works alongside us has been fantastic in the support they have given to each other. As I take the time to reflect each week in writing this letter to share with you, I am reminded of all of the changes and development that has happened for our learners and the school as a whole. I am pleased for those of you who have been with us through this journey and supported us to get where we are today, and excited about all of the new learners and families we are welcoming to our community.

Reminder again for the COVID Summer Food Fund, we still will want to make sure that you have checked your eligibility. Contact [info@nightingaleca.org](mailto:info@nightingaleca.org) to check in! We know that some families may still be finding it hard to get food or be stuck at home in need of help. We are still delivering parcels, so please ask if you require support. Also, look out for a text message with details of summer breakfast food available direct to your home from our partners at Magic Breakfast (<https://www.magicbreakfast.com>) and remember, there will be a summer offer here at NCA where the boys will have access to activities organised by the team at Wandsworth Borough Council and staff at the school. As soon as the offer is complete we will publish details.

Finally, we are currently reviewing plans for remote parent meetings during which you will be able to review your child's end of year report. An email update should be with you by the middle of next week and we will arrange invitations online once the schedule has been completed.

Keep well and keep safe,

Jimmy Brownell

Assistant Principal

We continue to provide as much detail as possible in our **communication to parents and carers** but if you have any questions or feel like we have missed something please get in touch and let us know. We continue to update our Covid-19 Risk Assessment and responses in line with Government guidance. Email [info@nightingaleca.org](mailto:info@nightingaleca.org) or call reception. For those of you who are still uncertain about transport arrangements, the local authority teams can be reached on the following numbers:

Borough	Contact Number	Borough	Contact Number
Wandsworth	020 8871 7977	Southwark	020 7703 6180
Lambeth	020 7926 6839	Kingston	020 8547 5540
Croydon	020 8686 2215	Hounslow	07476310089
Merton	020 8545 3286	Surrey 1	07563544522
Lewisham	020 3049 1204	Surrey 2	07532816360