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4th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well. It is hard to believe that we are already in May and the schools have now been shut for 6 weeks.

The staff are continuing to update Tapestry with learning each week and I have enjoyed looking at some of the learning you have all uploaded, particularly some of the lovely messages from children. Teachers and the Nursery Team will be contacting you again this week to speak to yourselves and the children about how you are all getting on. They will also be able to answer any questions you have regarding home learning.

We are starting to look at what transition may look like ready for September and are planning for different scenarios. Once we have more of an idea from the government about when schools are likely to open, we will let you know our plans. We are already working with our new teachers to ensure we can try to make transition as smooth as possible.

We have finally managed to sort out Free School Meal vouchers for those children who are eligible and thank you for your patience with this. The families that this applies to know who they are and should receive a link to their vouchers soon. If you have not received a voucher and you think you are eligible, please let the Class Teacher know next week when they phone.

Staff continue to work hard from home and are attending regular 'Zoom' meetings online – I feel like I spend all day everyday 'Zooming' at the moment! (I am sure some of you probably feel the same.) As well as planning, 'Zooming' and preparing resources, all staff have been completing their own online learning. All staff have had to complete a variety of online units including: safeguarding, health and safety, fire safety, first aid, food hygiene and SEND training. Some staff have also been completing diplomas and other ongoing learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff for their ongoing support and hard work during these challenging times. I would also like to thank you and your children for your support and ongoing commitment to our Newhall family. I am sure it won't be long before some restrictions are lifted and we will begin to start to see each other in person again.

Hopefully we will look back on this time and be able to take something positive from it; be it valuable time spent with our children, learning a new skill, working smarter, taking regular exercise or just being able to hear the birds sing.

Wishing you a healthy, happy and safe week.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Debbie Gayler



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