



**NORTON SUB HAMDON and WEST CHINNOCK
C of E VC PRIMARY SCHOOL FEDERATION**



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19th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

While this wet weather may be good for our green spaces, it has made it challenging to get out and about as much as we would like. Luckily, Mr Rice was able to dodge the showers for PE at Norton and at West Chinnock, our year 6 weren't dissuaded from clearing the pond and planting up the raised beds.

At home, there has been some great descriptive writing and even some comic strips complete with jokes - enough to brighten any rainy day!

Returning to school update

After all this time, and especially with this week's rain, we can imagine that many of you at home are asking when your children will be able to return to school.

As we stated in our letter last week, we would have liked to have found a way of welcoming all children back in some capacity - to meet their friends and staff again as well as to become familiar with our protective measures.

The latest Government guidance for primaries was published on Tuesday 16th June. We had hoped it would allow us to use a rota system to bring children in from years 2-5 before the summer. However, the guidance states that schools should not offer a rota and should only offer more spaces if, after making provision for year R, 1 and 6, they have the capacity to do so.

Given the high take up of places of children in Year R, 1 and 6 and also our ongoing commitment to provide a facility for the children of key workers, we have no extra capacity (staffing, space and personal hygiene facilities) without compromising the protective measures that are in place.

Instead, we are now trialling virtual meet-ups with teachers using the 'Meet' function on Google Classrooms. It is hoped that this will provide the opportunity for pupils who are not attending to check in with us in a safe way. For parents of children who are not attending we will be in touch with you about this.

We are hopeful that all pupils will be able to return to school again in September although we anticipate that many of the protective measures will remain in place.

The Rainbow Games!

To celebrate National Sports Week - 20th June -26th June, we invite you to take part in the Rainbow Games. Teachers will be uploading different fun activities for each day of the week. The challenges are designed so that they can be completed at home or at school and children can have as many goes at each activity as they like.

Children can record their best score each day and if they submit the score sheet back to us on Google Classrooms they will be sent a certificate to show they have completed the Rainbow Games.

Have fun and we'd love to see some pictures and videos of you competing!

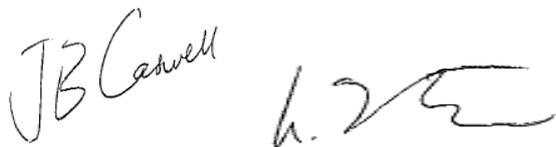
Poetry Competition

The wonderful collection of poems is now with judge and local author Tamsin Cooke. She is working her way through your entries and we will announce the winners in next week's letter!

Please find attached the letter from Julian Wooster, Director of Children's Services at Somerset County Council.

Have a restful weekend and we hope you are able to get outside between the showers.

Yours sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature on the left is 'JBCaswell' and the second signature on the right is 'L. Stiddard'.

Mr J Caswell & Ms L Stiddard
Co-Headteachers