



## Remote Message from the Principal 10

26<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear all,

We have had another very positive week both in and out of school. Year 10 are falling into a routine, we continue to see great engagement with the remote learning and, whilst still relatively quiet of course, the vibrancy and life is definitely returning to the CFS classrooms which is wonderful to see.

We are all extremely excited about the Transition Days coming up over the next two weeks. Staff have received comprehensive onsite training and have been working together to plan engaging transition activities; we are confident that we will be able to continue executing our risk assessment fully whilst still ensuring that any children who do return for the day have a welcoming and engaging experience. Please do read the attached reminder of the plans; **please note the slight alteration to entry locations for some pupils in Secondary, which has also been emailed out separately to those affected.**

We are of course aware of the social distancing guidance changing nationally on the 4<sup>th</sup> July. However, the school specific guidance has not altered – pupils are to remain in bubbles of no more than 15 and encouraged to socially distance where possible. Whilst from 4<sup>th</sup> the new legislation for all is 1 metre plus, this is where extra mitigation can be in place such as face coverings and plastic screens. Also, we have already planned to get most pupils into school before the end of term and this was possible with 2 metre distancing. We will therefore not be making any fundamental changes to our approach for the last week of term.

I know that you will be very keen to know exactly what is happening in September. We are awaiting promised preliminary guidance in the next couple of weeks. As soon as we have read this, digested it and devised our initial plan based on it, I will be in touch. I hope this is before the end of term. However, we have been advised that this is likely to only be preliminary indications of how things should look in September, as obviously nationally the Government need to see how the virus progresses over the next couple of months. It therefore may well be that we are not able to confirm 100% until August. I know this is extremely frustrating and difficult for you, it is for us all. But please be assured that – as we have at all stages of this – we will communicate with you as soon as possible once we are confident we have a plan that we can execute safely and positively. On a personal level, I hope it goes without saying that I sincerely hope (I have fingers and toes crossed!) that we are able to have all pupils back full time in September – as is currently being indicated.

I am also aware that clarification regarding summer plans is long overdue. Again, we have needed to wait for final guidance both from the Government and the Local Authority. Subsequently we have then been liaising with our external WAC provider about possible provision on the school site. We are now in a position to outline our summer plans to you – please see the sections below.

We have had a few queries regarding the recently announced 'catch up fund' from the Government. More information on this is also below.



There is a lot of information coming over the next couple of weeks I am afraid, as is common at this time of year but of course even more so at the moment. We are trying to stagger this at the appropriate time. But before the end of term, please be assured that you will also receive information on the following:

- Information for Year 11 regarding Leavers' hoodies and clearing out lockers.
- Prize Giving information
- Preliminary September plans
- Preliminary plans for GCSE and A Level Results Days
- Parental Rhythm of the Year (school calendar for 2020-2021)
- Annual Parental Information Pack

And of course, announcing the winners of our annual House Cup! This is all still to play for. It is a great pleasure every week to email many of you because your son/daughter has achieved a high number of House Points during the previous week. I am hoping for many more over the next two weeks. One of the things I have really missed over the last few months is conducting the fortnightly Principal's Award. But teachers have been logging achievements throughout lockdown that warrant a nomination for this, and I will be having a Principal's Award celebration as soon as possible next term. I will need to dust off the Uno pack!

Please do take the time to read the information below and the attached reminders about Transition Day plans, starting next week.

But for now, have a wonderful weekend.

With very best wishes

**Mrs Louise New**

**Principal**



## Summer Work for Pupils

- **Formal daily remote learning** will not continue during the summer holiday; if pupils have kept up with the remote learning issued since March then the next stage is to get the face to face support in the classroom, which we are all craving and sincerely hoping will return in September. Whilst we have always understood that not all of the work will have been completed by all pupils, if your child has a lot of outstanding pieces we do recommend that they try to cover some of this over the summer to help them in their transition back to school next term.
- **Optional summer tasks and activities** will be posted on SMHW in the final week of term for Years R-9. These will remain on the platform throughout the holiday and, whilst not formally monitored by teachers, are there if you wish for your child to continue with some form of schoolwork. There will be a mixture of academic learning and more practical, creative or fun enrichment tasks.
- However, there are many pupils in these year groups who have been working tirelessly every day and, like any other year, need a break from schoolwork over the summer. As a family you therefore have this flexibility, but we hope that all pupils will return in September having covered as much of the formal work as is possible for them.
- **Year 6 pupils** should be completing their Passion Project. This has been started in school and will be sent home to all those not in school at the moment, as well as to the pupils in other primary schools who are joining us in September, on Transition Day next week. So if you are not aware of this yet, do not panic – further information to follow on Wednesday!
- **Year 10 pupils** will all be receiving a 'Curriculum Checklist' in each of their GCSE subjects next week. This will outline the work that staff are expecting to have been covered by September, if all of the remote learning has been completed. Staff are also liaising with pupils about this in school, and in the Wednesday drop-in sessions online. **Year 10 pupils are strongly encouraged to ensure they have completed this work, if they haven't already, by September.** Teachers are making sure the appropriate work is still accessible on SMHW, and Year 10 pupils will have at least a week of term time after the lists are released to liaise with their teachers if they need any support in ensuring they have everything they need over the summer. It is important that Year 10 do get a balance – for those that have kept on top of everything they will undoubtedly need a break before Year 11 starts, but we also want all pupils to be able to hit the ground running in their GCSE year.
- We have adopted a similar approach with **Year 12**, although this is being communicated directly from teachers in the live lessons and Mr Angell has been in touch about UniFrog and UCAS applications.



## Childcare Provision over the Summer

- The key worker childcare provision, which has been offered by the School throughout lockdown, will end on 10<sup>th</sup> July.
- We have arranged with our external Wrap Around Provider – Energy Kidz – for them to offer a summer club on the school site. For those of you who have not used Energy Kidz previously, here is a brief outline of the provider:

*Energy Kidz is a leading provider of wrap around childcare in the UK for children aged 4-11. It was founded with the vision of providing fun, active, reliable, affordable and well organised clubs supporting parents when most needed; before school, after school and during the holidays. Established in 2009 with continuous growth and development, Energy Kidz works with over 106 schools with our team caring for over 5000 children every day. Our sites cater for between 25 and 80 children per session. Energy Kidz register all our Clubs with Ofsted. We follow Ofsted regulations and guidelines to offer the highest standard of care possible. These regulations help raise the quality of care and ensure the safety and wellbeing of children.*

The summer provision will run from wb 27<sup>th</sup> July until wb 17<sup>th</sup> August, 08.30 till 17.00. You will be able to book for 5 days for £155 or 3 days (Tues/Wed/Thurs) for £108. These fees are charged and due directly to Energy Kidz, completely independent of the School. Booking is via the Energy Kidz website. We will send through more information from them as soon as soon as we receive it.

## Government Catch up Funding

You have probably seen that the Government have announced they will be providing a large fund of money to schools next year to support with the 'catch up' needs caused by the pandemic. Whilst this is a very appreciated large amount of money across all schools, at present we have not been informed how much we will receive at CFS. Secondary schools also have always received a source of funding to support interventions – used at CFS for our maths and English HLTA provision and small group support – but unfortunately next year this fund has been temporarily withdrawn due to this Covid-19 catch up fund. Therefore we are unsure how much, overall, we will receive extra to normal, especially in the Secondary phase. As soon as we know we will of course ensure we use the money for exactly what it is intended for - supporting all pupils in responding to the interruption they have had this year. We will be in touch at the start of next academic year with more specifics about how this money will be used.