

Parent Forum Minutes – Wednesday 1st April, Thursday 2nd April and Friday 3rd April

The discussion from all 3 meetings have been combined below:	
Initial Greetings	All parents began by saying a huge thank you to all the staff for all they are doing. The information received by school has been great. They feel that the work set is incredibly helpful and appropriate and that it is providing a much-needed structure to the day. It is really appreciated to have the message of 'no pressure' and that it's ok to get done what they can get done. The support received has been fantastic and it's really helpful to have the contact with teachers should they need it. Parents have expressed that the StarLeaf calls have been well received and the children really enjoy seeing their friends and their teacher's faces.
StarLeaf	Are we going to start delivering lessons via StarLeaf? Mrs Honey's music was well received.
	Are we planning on using StarLeaf to teach small groups or for those that need more help?
	Could we 'sign off' on our last StarLeaf call before Easter, so that the children can say goodbye?
	Could the children have the opportunity to talk to each other over StarLeaf rather than just to the teacher?
	At the moment we are very much using StarLeaf as a mental wellbeing tool. As teachers, we are using this as a chance to say hello and let the children each speak and share. This has proved to be very popular with the children. This is our focus for now, but as we learn more about the length of closures, and we, as a staff, gain confidence in the technology, we may look to develop this. All teachers will ensure they say a goodbye for the Easter holidays, but we will also be organising one StarLeaf chat per week of the Easter holidays to keep in touch.
	Is there the possibility to have some work submitted and marked?
	This is too tricky to manage; we could potentially end up with hundreds of daily e mails. We are encouraging children to load their work onto Purple Mash, where it can be seen and acknowledged. We are also starting to collate various pieces of work that have been sent from children to publish on the app each Friday.
	Can we have more work sent, but possibly more independent activities that the children can do without supervision?
	We will send more choice tiles with these types of activities on.
	Other suggestions discussed and agreed by staff:
	A suggestion was made that e mails could be worded to the children rather than the parents, just to allow the children to take ownership and feel that the teacher is talking directly to them.
	To send the work the evening before, to allow parents to print and prepare.
	Easter Holidays
Whilst there will be no set daily work, each year group will collate a selection of ideas that children can access independently. They will not be curriculum based, but more fun creative ideas.	

Length of closure	<p>Questions were asked over how long we think this may last and there are concerns that whilst this is manageable right now, it is not sustainable for the next 3-6 months.</p>
	<p>We don't have any answers about the length of time at all, but we must prepare for the fact it could be months rather than weeks. We will be asking for parental feedback once again after Easter and will try to work together to progress our practice.</p>
	<p>Have we thought about how the transition may look, depending on when we return?</p>
	<p>Whilst we have made no decisions yet, we will give careful consideration to the best way to enable children to come back into school and consider their previous teacher plus their new one, depending on the time we actually return. Once we are told we can return, there will be no hesitation, we can come straight back in.</p>
	<p>Concerns were raised over the anxiety of Year 6 children, not knowing if they will get their leavers assembly and party etc.. and the cancellation of SATs.</p>
	<p>We will keep in touch with the children and will do all that we can to ensure these things still take place. This will of course depend on our return date and the latest government guidelines, but rest assured this is important to us and we will be planning towards helping this to still happen. With regards to SATs, the Year 6 children completed the last round of PIXL papers just before we finished, which were the National SATs papers from 2019. This therefore gives us a good assessment base that can be passed on to their next schools.</p>