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**Headteacher – Mr Richard Kitching**

Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: End of Spring term and Summer term home learning**

I hope that you and your families are all safe and well during this disconcerting time.

Today marks the official last day of the Spring term. Normally a happy and vibrant day that commences with Celebration Assembly in the morning, it has instead felt very strange this time as it will have done in schools, nurseries, colleges and academies across the country.

The current position from the Government continues to be that schools will ‘remain closed until further notice.’ Although hard for anyone to predict at the moment, it is likely that schools will remain closed for a significant period of the summer term as part of the Government’s wider strategy to combat the spread of the coronavirus.

With this in mind, I will update you on a couple of developments within our school community that will commence at the start of the summer term (the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> April).

Regarding home learning, teachers have been carefully planning learning tasks that will be as closely aligned as possible to our summer term curriculum topic ‘It’s a Wonderful World.’ The learning tasks will cover a range of curriculum areas and will be sent out via parent mail in a weekly planning format prior to the week commencing. It is at the discretion of parents and carers as to how to best deliver these tasks to the children in a timetable or schedule that suits you; we are very aware that our families are in different circumstances and we do not want to be too prescriptive. Teachers will try and ensure the tasks are as accessible as possible and will contain a mixture of online activities as well as written and practical learning tasks.

In terms of communication, class teachers can still be contacted through the school office email (putting *FAO Class teacher’s name* in the subject line) or you can request their individual work email this way should you wish to do so.

Miss Funnell has been updating the Derwent Class Dojo page on a daily basis and over the last two weeks this has really ‘come into its own’ as a great way for Miss Funnell and parents to communicate during this period of school closure and also to share home learning activities. We are pleased to say that a Class Dojo page for both the Dove Class and the Trent Class are both now in development and will be up and running at the start of the summer term. Parents and Carers in both the Dove Class and Trent class will be receiving an email in due course inviting them to sign up to the Class Dojo page thus enabling another means of communication with the class teachers. Many parents and carers in these two classes will already be familiar with Class Dojo, but for those that are not, it is a web based school communication platform that is established and used successfully in many educational settings around the country already.

All of the teachers are really missing their classes and they are looking forward to helping, guiding and supporting in any way they can in the summer term.

We will continue to review the effectiveness of our home learning guidance and adapt as necessary as the term progresses. We will also keep you informed of any school related updates as the coronavirus situation progresses.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout this term and I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Richard Kitching

Headteacher

