

Saturday 4th April 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I really hope you and your families are well and remain symptom free. Hopefully you're being able to enjoy the glorious sunshine this weekend!

Easter Holiday Arrangements

As there are no children of identified key workers that require child-care provision, we are not opening the school over the Easter break. All staff are taking a very well deserved break, though all **Tutors will remain in weekly contact** with everyone in their Tutor group in the next two weeks. If your child is one of the few that their Tutor hasn't yet been in contact with (normally using their school email account) then they are going to try ringing on the telephone numbers you have provided. We really want to make sure we are remaining in regular contact with everyone.

As it's holiday time we are not expecting students to be doing 'home-learning' in the next fortnight. I am not expecting teachers to respond to queries specifically about learning resources during this period but I would point you to the other activities and 'Positivity' pack on the website.

<https://www.carwarden.surrey.sch.uk/key-stages/learning-at-home-resources/positivity-and-parents-area>

There are loads of activities to keep your child occupied, positive and busy – especially two exciting competitions! We are running a **School Photographer of the Year Competition**, with amazing prizes and even tips on taking a great photo! And your child can also take part in our **Great Carwarden Easter-Egg Challenge** for the chance of a reward! All details and how to enter will be found on the website in the next few days.

Another exciting offer on the website is **Story-time with Carlyne** – a different story every time from our own Ms La Mare. David Walliams...eat your heart out!

Home-learning resources suitable for every student will be posted on the website ready for the start of the Summer Term on the 20th April.

<https://www.carwarden.surrey.sch.uk/key-stages/learning-at-home-resources>

A huge thanks to so many of you for sending photos of your children 'working from home'. Lucy, who is brilliantly managing the website for us, has been inundated with amazing pictures, examples of work and fun being had! I have asked her to upload new stuff just twice during her holiday. If you've sent something, please be patient....it will get posted!

2020 School Leavers

Like for many young people across the country, school closure has meant huge disappointment for our leavers this year. Missing out on all the special events to celebrate their graduation from Carwarden be very sad for many. But do not fear – we have a plan!

The **School Prom** and **6th Form Leaver's Party** have both been rebooked for dates in September, by when we all hope to be back to school and our lives returning to normal. We will also hold our **Presentation Evening** early in the Autumn Term. These exciting occasions will be as great as ever.....just a bit postponed!

We have also ordered unique and special **Leaver's Hoodies** for everyone leaving us this term – a gift from the school to celebrate and remember our leavers' time with us and their Carwarden friends.

For those who were looking forward to an amazing **Residential** opportunity in the summer term, we are exploring how we can rearrange these for next academic year. Sadly, we won't be able to offer this to those that have left us though. I'm so sorry.

Staff Thank-You

I want to use this opportunity to thank all the staff who have worked amazingly hard, in really challenging circumstances, to ensure we continue to do our very best for each and every student. The past few weeks have been crazily busy (and very stressful at times!) but I'm 100% confident we have done everything we can to keep students and staff as safe and healthy as possible, to provide brilliant home-learning resources and keep everyone well informed about what's happening. We have made all the arrangements for the few children to whom we will be providing child-care after Easter AND done all this within the latest Government, Public Health England, NHS and Surrey guidance (much of which is updated every day).

But, we continue to look at how we can further improve our offer and to respond to the comments and queries you are making.

Contact

It has been wonderful to chat on the phone to many parents. Remember, if you or your child is struggling in any way – or you would just appreciate a chat then please ring me anytime on **07377 019855**. I will do all I can to offer the support you need and continue to be here for you throughout every day of the Easter Holiday.

Stay safe, stay positive and stay at home.

Tim
Headteacher