



8th July 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Traditionally when a school year comes to a close, pupils, families and staff take a moment to reflect on the year that was. Certainly, we can all agree, the 2019-2020 school year is one we will never forget. Along with the challenges of the last four months, I hope you won't forget the many events and celebrations that you have supported and all the amazing achievements of our pupils.

Once again this year, Sylvester pupils and staff, whether physically in our buildings or working from home in a new environment for education, demonstrated their commitment to education and to one another. I applaud the efforts of our pupils, staff and parents/carers who have worked so hard to keep the learning going.

Now, it is time to look ahead to the next school year. We know the economic, medical, social and academic landscapes are continuing to shift and expectations, requirements and possibilities will continue to move with them throughout the foreseeable future. While there are so many unknowns, we believe, even in the best-case scenario, things will look different when we return fully in September than they did in early March.

We have begun a multi-step process to prepare for the revised Government guidance on September opening. We are focused on three main areas: Learning and Teaching, Finances, and Operations. Each of these areas are key for meeting our goal of continuing to provide quality learning opportunities in a safe environment for pupils and staff while consistently re-evaluating and adjusting, and staying within our financial means.

In order to support the planning and preparing of the school building and classrooms for September we intend to close fully for pupils on 15th July 2020. Our staff will then spend the remainder of the term reorganising classrooms, preparing resources and materials for the changes required for September.

We wish our departing Year 6 pupils the very best in their next exciting stage of their education journey at secondary school and look forward to welcoming all our pupils in other year groups back in September. Reports for this school year will be sent home with pupils who are returning in September and reports for Year 6 pupils will be posted out.

September will look and appear different when your child/ren return to school and we will be sending letters home with details regarding re-opening.

Finally, I wish to thank you all for your continued support and please enjoy your summer.

Yours Faithfully,

Ruth Harrison
Principal

Dream, Believe, Achieve