



# Worthington Primary School

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"We Only Reach for The Highest"

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Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents / Carers and Pupils

## School Update 9

I do hope each and every one of you is well and safe. By staying at home at the moment, you are all protecting the NHS and saving lives. I feel we shall look back on this extremely difficult period with immense gratitude to all those who are doing so much for us all. Hopefully, we don't need it today, but the National Health Service is always there for us all, and is what makes our country great.

School really isn't the same without every child. We remain open for children of key workers and each day, we have taught a maximum of about a dozen children. They are following the work set by staff and placed on our school website each week. This week's work is now on the school website's homepage, under the curriculum tab, please scroll down to your child's key stage and then to their year group.

Whilst our key worker children have been in school, we as teachers have been fully aware of the need to give them regular breaks and keep the learning as fun as possible – most days have concluded with a whole school game of prize bingo!

I know that home-schooling can be really difficult, please stick with it if you are finding it hard – everything you do now, is having a massive impact on your child – that's a promise.

## What Happens Next?

You may have heard yesterday afternoon's Downing Street Press Conference, where Gavin Williamson MP, Secretary of State for Education, made a series of announcements regarding schools. He really didn't give any indication as to when schools will be reopened but I felt he was saying that when this does eventually happen, it will be a phased return.

Rest assured that I shall continue to keep you all informed via Parent Pay emails.

## Free School Meal Vouchers

After almost four weeks of battling with the government's online provider of free school meals vouchers, I have eventually sourced them from Trafford. All parents of children eligible for free school meals (not Universal Free School Meals) should now have received an email from me on Friday of last week, with four weeks' worth of meal vouchers for Tesco. Please follow the information to redeem your vouchers.

I wish to apologise for the delay in getting these to you. I have spent almost all day every day since our closure trying to get these to you. The company that has been awarded this government contract (Edenred) simply has not got the capacity to deal with the number of requests from headteachers across the country.

Keep well and safe.

Yours sincerely

Mr Searle