

Monday 27th April 2020

Dear Parents of Y6 children

You will all no doubt be thinking of what the future holds this term, given that your child is coming to the end of their time with us at Westgate. As mentioned previously, we are acutely aware of the special circumstances Y6 find themselves in, thinking of the various events that usually take place this term which mark their move from us to high school.

Unfortunately, some of these things may not be able to go ahead, and so much depends on when schools open. However, we have begun to think about what we can put in place, and I wanted to let you know what we are doing.

At the moment, we are waiting for more information about Herd Farm. The organisers have let us know that they will make final decisions about cancelling residential for June & July at the next government Lockdown review. As things stand, we are not expecting it to go ahead, but we will confirm as soon as we know for definite. At that point, any monies you have paid will be refunded to you through SIMS.Pay.

On Friday, the head teachers of our Family of Schools met online and one of the things we began to discuss was Y6/7 transition. PHGS are already working on plans and will be writing to you directly in the next week or two, to outline some of this. This letter will come directly from them to the email address you have provided them with, so look out for this communication.

We have begun to talk about whether or not we will be able to do a Y6 Leavers' Play. This very much depends on when and if we go back to school before the summer holidays. With 4 weeks or so back at school, Mr Hackney and Miss Gnap feel that this would be possible, so that is one contingency we are planning for, if we do end up back at school this term.

We will definitely arrange a Y6 Leavers' Party- even if it cannot take place until after children have started at secondary school. We will be guided by social distancing and lockdown restrictions, but at some point, when it is safe to do so, we will ensure we celebrate the children's time with us, with a party!

We are also beginning to think about what a Y6 Leavers' Assembly could look like- again, this is something that could happen even if it is after the start of the Autumn Term, just in a slightly different format/ time slot to usual.

Finally, work is afoot to compile a Y6 Leavers' Yearbook as usual. Huge thanks to Friends of Westgate for this. Your child will have some work to do online to contribute towards this. More information about this project will come separately.

I am so proud of the children for the way they are responding to their online learning, and grateful to you for your support. We will continue to share with you our plans as they develop and as we know more about the length and circumstances of school closures. Thank you for your support and understanding in these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Carpenter', written in a cursive style.

Helen Carpenter
Head teacher