

Monday, 20th April 2020

Dear Maryland Families,

Welcome Back Summer Letter



Hello from Mrs.Jackson and the staff. I hope you all had a restful Easter break and welcome to our very first remote summer term!

We've all had to adapt to new ways of working, so I wanted to take the opportunity to say what an amazing job you're doing supporting your child's wellbeing and learning at home during this time.

It's definitely been a strange and challenging time for all of us. We miss the children very much, but we must follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. So, we're carrying on with setting learning for your child online including through Google Classroom, however, from next week we will partially open one classroom in the school to vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers in the fight against COVID 19.

Remember, we're here to support you in any way we can so if you have any concerns about helping your child to learn at home or if you need any other support from the school, please let us know by emailing our mailbox info@maryland.newham.sch.uk. Our Senior Team and office staff check daily, so someone will contact you.

Some of the Maryland team have been busy packing and giving out 75 food parcels to families every week since shutdown, even during the two weeks of the Easter holidays. Our Children's Centre team has been busy supporting the babies and toddlers in the local community by giving out free milk, nappies and baby clothes to those who need it. Our Safeguarding team has conducted wellbeing calls in the month that we have been closed and volunteer staff and parents have attended to the premises, feeding the chickens and watering Natures' Garden. Teachers have been writing children's mid year reports and hopefully we will get a chance to write the end of year ones. Regardless of what happens, Year 6 will have an opportunity to 'graduate' at the end of term.

Maryland teachers have provided your children with lots of activities they can get stuck into until we reopen – so keep a close eye on Google Classroom and our website to find out more. Please make sure that you and your children are watching the BBC Bitesize Live lessons, on the BBC Bitesize website, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>, there are some fantastic activities that are really fun. Remember there will be no Year 2 and Year 6 SATS, no Year 1 Phonic Screening and no Year 4 Multiplication test this year. We will do our best to accelerate your child's learning in an enjoyable way as possible when we are all back together.

Finally, we hope you enjoyed the video message we sent to the children (I hope they are still dancing) and equally we want to see the children's fantastic learning at home – please keep sending their work in e.g. by taking a picture and sending via email, or via Google Classroom. We would like to showcase it on our website and Twitter page in due course.

We can't say yet when we'll be able to open the school fully, but rest assured that we'll continue doing our utmost to keep your child learning and our school community connected.

Let's get cracking with our summer term!

Warm regards,
Mrs.Jackson,
Headteacher