

Head Teacher
Mrs C.D. Mackenzie

Tel: 01606 288080
Email: head@whitegate.cheshire.sch.uk
www.whitegate.cheshire.sch.uk



Whitegate Church of England
Primary School
Whitegate
Northwich
Cheshire
CW8 2AY

Thursday 19th March

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this: I am struggling to believe that tomorrow we will be saying 'au revoir' (see you again) to the vast majority of children. Given that this summer's SATs, GCSE and A Level examinations have been cancelled, we can expect to be closed for a significant amount of time.

Thinking in particular of the Y6 children:

- We will hold a Leavers' Service; it may not be in July but we will make sure that an appropriate date is set and during this, we will be able to celebrate 7 years of hard work.
- Leavers' Hoodies will still be available – we will communicate arrangements for this at a later date.
- Signing of shirts – absolutely, we will encourage this to happen tomorrow afternoon.
- The children need to complete all work set at home to help them structure their time; to ensure they do not get out of good habits; and, to ensure that they are ready for their transfer to High School.

We will be holding a special act of Collective Worship tomorrow, for children and staff, where we will celebrate the amazing year that we have had so far.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, who always go above and beyond, but have been particularly amazing in these past few days. They have continued to support, guide and comfort our wonderful children. I am sure that you will agree that we are blessed with an incredible staff team, all of whom have your child's happiness, safety and academic achievements at the heart of everything that they do.

Over the next couple of days, I will be putting together a rota of all staff in school, so that we can open for those children whose parents are 'Key Workers' and for those 'vulnerable' children.

If your child receives free school meals, we will be in touch with you regarding how we can continue to support this provision.

This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with us as we deal with this ever-changing situation.

If you want to get in touch to share any concerns, please don't hesitate to do so.

I continue to pray for our school community and our nation. I pray that God would keep us all safe; and that we would trust in Him in this confusing time. I pray for wisdom for world leaders and for strength for those working on the 'front line'.

I offer these words of comfort and encouragement:

Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)

As well as our own school verse:

Do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9)

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Caroline Mackenzie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Caroline Mackenzie