

# Growing, Learning & Achieving with Dedication & Enthusiasm



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Headteacher: Mrs Farzana Hussain

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you are all well and staying safe.

Following on from the letter I sent on Tuesday, I am writing to inform you of our current plans regarding the potential reopening of school. The situation continues to rapidly change, both in terms of the national picture and internally with regards to school staffing and risk assessing.

In the last forty-eight hours, there have been several important meetings which involved senior Leaders at Glade, the Chair and Vice Chair of Governors, local head teachers and the Director of Operations at the Local Authority to explore risks and benefits. We represented the Glade community at these meetings sharing some of the concerns raised by you, seeking further guidance and advice from professionals at a national level. It was great to see many of our parents and teachers on the Redbridge Zoom meeting last night at 6.30pm where there were almost 600 participants, including Redbridge councillors and MPs.

Earlier this week we called parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to ask if they would send their child(ren) in to school, if we were to reopen school, this was the percentage of parents who said they would:

Year group	% of parents who would said 'yes'
Reception	25%
Year 1	15%
Year 6	21%

As a school, we have agreed to continue our provision for children of key workers and vulnerable children from 1<sup>st</sup> June, as we have done since the beginning of the pandemic response, until further notice. As the number of children using this provision has increased, we are expanding to a second class. This will be a separate bubble in a different classroom with a different teacher and LSA to help maintain social distancing. Break and lunchtimes for both bubbles will be staggered. We will keep siblings in the same bubble. If you are a key worker and require to use our key worker provision, please provide the school office with at least 24-hour notice and evidence of key worker status.

The Local Authority have today advised us that the draft independent SAGE report has been published and it **recommends** a change to any start date from 1<sup>st</sup> June to the week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> June.

The LA have confirmed that while this is the view of independent SAGE and is not the view of government SAGE advisors, they have strongly recommended that we await the publication of the government and DfE response to the independent SAGE recommendations before we finalise our arrangements for any extended introduction of other year groups. As a school we have decided to follow that advice and await the government response which is anticipated on or before May 28<sup>th</sup>. Once that response is published we will advise parents further on our arrangements for any changes to our provision on the school site.

LINK TO INDEPENDENT SAGE REPORT:

<http://www.independentsage.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Independent-Sage-Brief-Report-on-Schools.pdf>

We understand that this continued uncertainty places an additional burden on you as parents and apologise that we are unable to be clear what the situation will be moving forward. As soon as feasibly possible, we will update you all.



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Home learning and Zoom sessions will not take place over half-term as we all need a break from work for our own mental health. I have asked staff not to check emails or upload work over the holiday. Please give the children a break from work and try to do more recreational activities with them. The school building will be closed next week, except for one day when we have scheduled a whole school sanitization clean where external agency will come in to use the 'fogging' system. We look forward to continuing home learning and Zoom sessions from 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Thank you for your continued support and an extra special thanks for the wonderful emails, pictures and poems that were sent in for national 'Thank a Teacher Day' on Wednesday- we know that our staff really did appreciate the thoughtful gestures. These can be seen on our hall of fame on the school website.

We would also like to thank all of you for your support in making our lessons on Zoom such a success; as many of you may have seen, Glade Primary received coverage on ITV news yesterday. A special thanks to Miss Willers, Mrs Robinson and Mr Crouch for organising Glade's virtual educational visit to The Manhattan School of Music!

Finally, we wish you a restful half-term break. Eid Mubarak to all of our families who will be celebrating Eid this weekend. Once in a lifetime- quarantine Eid, where we will pray at home instead of mosques and parks. Enjoy with your loved ones.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs F Hussain  
Headteacher

