Date 26/6/20

Dear Parents / Carers

Elm Class Keeping In Touch Summer 20

As I said in the keeping in touch letter last week, I am writing to you now to give you an update, with some more information regarding the Keeping In Touch Plans for Year 3 children this term.

As I explained in the Keeping In Touch letter this week, it is impossible for us to offer a return to school to Year 3 children this term as, like all the local schools, we have no staff or space in school to do that safely.

We want to do as much as we can however to give Y3 children the important opportunity to see some of their friends, talk to their class teacher and have a chance to meet the new teacher(s) that they will work with in Y4.

We will be organising two events for Y3 children. One will be an opportunity to come into school in a group of 15 or less on the school field, for approximately an hour and the other event will be a Zoom video conference, hosted by the class teacher, for all the children in the class at the same time.

We are asking that you reply to us, to indicate whether your child will be attending 1 or both of these events, **by Monday 29th July at 3.30pm**. It is essential that we have this information by this date so we can plan the activities accordingly, including organising the groups.

I will then write to you again by Tuesday 30th July, letting you know which group, Elm Blue or Elm Red, that your child is in, so you know which time they will need to be in school for the event on the field.

Adam J.G Campbell (Headteacher)

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The following table sets out the dates and times for the Y3 events:

Year 3 Events			
Group	**Date**	**Time**	**Location**
Hazel Blue	**Wed 1st July** **Reserve - Wed 8th July**	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**KS2 Field**
Hazel Red	**Wed 1st July** **Reserve - Wed 8th July**	2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	**KS2 Field**
Elm Blue	**Wed 1st July** **Reserve - Wed 8th July**	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**KS1 Field**
Elm Red	**Wed 1st July** **Reserve - Wed 8th July**	2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	**KS1 Field**
Hazel Zoom event	**Tuesday 7th July**	2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	**Zoom**
Elm Zoom event	**Thursday 9th July**	1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	**Zoom**

Pick up and drop off times

The table below shows you the pick up and drop off times for Elm Blue and Elm Red, so that you are prepared for both possibilities:

Starting and finishing times for both groups			
Group	**Entrance / exit location**	**Drop off time**	**Pick up time**
Elm - Blue	Main outside gate	12:50 - 1:00 pm	1:10 pm
Elm - Red	Main outside gate	2:20 - 2:30 pm	3:40 pm
Please enter through the gate from Station Road			

In the interests of social distancing we would ask that ***only 1 parent / carer*** accompanies your child to school.

We also ask that once you have dropped off or picked up your child, you go straight home, ***minimising your time on the school site***. This is really important in helping us to ***work together to keep everyone safe***.

Safety and Social Distancing

We appreciate that some parents will have some anxieties with the prospect of sending children into school and so, to try and reassure any parents that may have such concerns, I would like to let you know about some of the measures we will be putting in place for the visit:

- Children will be asked to use hand gel on arrival.
- Children will be outdoors (on one of the school fields) for the duration of the visit.
- Children will have access to toilets that have been thoroughly cleaned since they were last used.

- Social distancing will be maintained with children 1.5 m+ spacing between children to be observed (we will give them little domed cones to sit by).

Communicating with us

If you want to get a message to us or discuss any matter before your visit, the best way is to put it in an email to the class teacher or the school office or phone the office after 9:30am and we will be ***very*** happy to help.

Uniform

We are asking that children ***do*** wear their school uniform as we think it is important as a reminder that children are part of The Firs' community we all belong to.

We are also asking however that children come into school in '***fresh from the wash'/clean clothes.*** Thanks!

What to bring with you and what to leave at home!

We have tried to minimise the amount of items coming in as much as we possibly can.

Your child should bring in…

- A ***named*** water bottle
- A hat (see section below on sun safety and hayfever).

Your child should ***not*** bring in…

- Any toys or personal possessions of any sort
- Items to share such as certificates or objects made at home
- Snacks (see section on playtime below)
- Backpacks or bookbags
- PE Kit

Sun safety and hayfever

We will be holding the event outside, so if your child suffers from hayfever, please make sure you give them any preventative treatment they use before coming in.

To ensure they are safe from the sun, please make sure they come in wearing a hat. Please also apply any sun cream you think they might need, before they come in.

Illness

We ask that you be especially aware of any change in your child's health, as of course, it is more than usually important that children remain at home if unwell. If your child is unwell then for everyone's safety we ask that your child does not attend the visit. Parents are now able to access testing for children (see the Coronavirus page on our website), and if this is the case, please keep the school updated. Getting tested.

If you or your child develops any of the symptoms listed by the Government as possible indicators of Coronavirus, you should follow the Government guidance and isolate for 7 days (14 days for others in the household).

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough

- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If anyone has any of the symptoms above, they should self-isolate at home.

The Reserve Date

As the event is on the field we really need dry weather and so we have a reserve date planned, which we will use if, due to the weather, we have to postpone.

The Zoom Event

Your child's class teacher will email all the children in Elm class soon, with a link for the meeting and with some guidance to help ensure children can take part successfully.

I hope this gives you the majority of the information you need and I hope that your child is able to join us for both the planned events this term.

Once again, I would like to say I wish we could do more to include our fantastic Year 3 children, because we all miss their presence in school so much but I want to thank you in advance for your support and your patience and I hope that you and all your family remain safe and well.

Yours sincerely,



Adam J.G. Campbell
Headteacher