

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020

To our dear Westwood Family,

We all hope you are well?

I wanted to start by saying thank you to you all for your support and positivity during our current situation. I have been heartened by your warmth, connection and spirit these last few weeks, especially given the time we have been away from school. Your happiness and wellbeing is important to us, as ours is to you. Thank you all so much!

I also wanted to make you aware of a few notices and information. Hopefully you all have received your invitation for the V.E. Celebration tomorrow, Bank Holiday Friday! We want you to join in and enjoy this day with your families. See the invitation for more details! My staff are going to be enjoying their Bank Holiday Friday too! Therefore, if you require help, support or assistance and you email us to request this, we will be opening these on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you for your support with this.

We would like to welcome our new Nursery family to Westwood! Flintshire have sent out emails today notifying you of your child's place if you have applied. If you have applied and not received your email of notification of a place, contact admissions at Flintshire County Council. Also if you wish for your child to join us at our Nursery for September and you haven't applied, you can still apply on <https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Admissions.aspx>

If you are receiving Free School Meals you should have had a letter from Flintshire County Council informing you that they are changing from direct deliveries to direct payments. If you haven't received this letter, get in touch with Flintshire County Council on their website or call 01352 704848. If you do not receive Free School Meals but think you are entitled, follow the link [https://secure.flintshire.gov.uk/Benefits/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=Flintshire%20Free%20School%20Meals%20\(1.0\).wdf](https://secure.flintshire.gov.uk/Benefits/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=Flintshire%20Free%20School%20Meals%20(1.0).wdf)

We are hoping that we will see you soon. School remains closed. We have had a statement and a link from Welsh Government we wish to share with you.

Ministerial statement issued this afternoon that no decision has been made to reopen schools from the 1<sup>st</sup> June after recent speculation and also which reiterates Welsh Government's approach to any future decision making around this important matter.

<https://gov.wales/situation-schools-will-not-change-june-1st-education-minister-says>  
<https://llyw.cymru/dim-newid-i-sefyllfar-ysgolion-ar-1-mehefin-me-ddair-gweinidog-addysg>

There is a lot of talk in the media about schools. Please take care when you see this and read information in the media about schools. Most of it applies to England and not Wales. Please be reassured, when we have official information from our Welsh Government, you will get this too! That is why opening up emails from us will keep you honestly informed with the official news going forward. Thank you for your support and patience.

I also want the children to know just how proud we all of them! Their happiness and wellbeing is paramount. We cannot stress this enough. Learning and engagement is happening in so many ways and we want you to be supported in your efforts. Remember do what works for you and your family. I just ask that you do pick up your emails. This is our main way to connect with you and communicate information to you. I have had many chats this week with families who have changed details, phone numbers etc. If you are aware that you are not receiving emails or you know one of our Westwood Family is relying on other communication means, please let us know by emailing the office on [wwmail@hwbcymru.net](mailto:wwmail@hwbcymru.net) and ensure we have the correct details for you to stay connected. Thanks.

We have been delighted with the uptake on the new Seesaw personal codes and lovely to see what you have been doing at home. The codes were emailed on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April. If you have not seen this, please go back and check your email. Join in on Seesaw; your teacher's will be happy to Seesaw you and it is a new way for you and class mates to connect via your teacher!

Another way I have been connecting with you is on social media though our Twitter and Instagram platform - I know I cannot see you but I know that lots of you see and hear me! I have had lots of fabulous pictures and Westwood's followers on Instagram are increasing. I do a weekly Vlog (video log) and give shout outs to you too! Go on Instagram @WW\_Buckley or I post these on our website too! Just click on <http://www.westwoodprimary.co.uk/blogs>. And catch up with the latest happenings.

On Instagram, I have challenged the children to do a loo roll challenge. I have had a few but I would like more children to join in. Email a short clip to [wwmail@hwbcymru.net](mailto:wwmail@hwbcymru.net) of you doing the loo roll challenge! Look at the staff video on [https://twitter.com/WW\\_Buckley/status/1246778719802359810](https://twitter.com/WW_Buckley/status/1246778719802359810) if you are not sure what this is.

Someone throws a loo roll from the right, and you catch it. Then you throw it to the left. My deadline is May 25<sup>th</sup> so keep the videos coming!!

I also hope you have been enjoying the Family Quiz that Mr Powell has been organising for you on Friday. Don't forget to check you emails around 4.45pm to 5pm for a special code to join in! Lots of fun.

As you know we do not know when we will all be back together, but staying connected and close is important- Family is important! Our Westwood Family is important!

We all miss you so very, very much - we are really counting the days till we are back at Westwood. But until then: Stay Strong! Stay Positive! Stay Happy! Stay Safe!

From Mrs Williams & all of Team Westwood