

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and that you had a lovely, yet unusual Easter. Summer Term 2020, will be like no other and, once again, we thank you in advance for your never ending support as we navigate into more uncharted waters.

We were proud to open Hart Primary School during the Easter holidays to provide care for the children of critical workers of St Peter's and Hart Primary School. The staff designed lots of Easter activities which they enjoyed alongside the children!

Staff are missing the children and are really enjoying receiving the updates from the children; it is great to hear of all the wonderful, fun, creative activities that they have been up to! It is so important they realise that they are playing a crucial role in the COVID-19 response and how proud of them we are.

I would like to note at this point that school have no additional information regarding when schools will reopen or what this will look like. We are guided by Government Guidelines and work closely with the Local Authority to ensure we meet these guidelines. Often, we find out at the same time as the general public.

On Friday 19th April 2020 the government released additional guidelines and resources for home learning and throughout the week, staff have been working from home to evaluate them. You will have received a letter from Mrs Wilson and Miss Leighton with relevant information. To support with the safety of our children and their wellbeing we have created 'Well Being' and 'Online Safety' pages on our website which include recommendations and ideas of how to support the needs of your children at this time. If you have any queries, please contact school and we will aim to support you.

We are pleased to inform that for those families eligible for Free School Meals, our admin team have ordered the Free School Meal Vouchers and we are waiting for them to arrive in your 'inbox'. If you need any information or support with this, please contact info@hartelwickfederation.org.uk. If you would like to see if you are eligible for Free School Meals please contact the Benefits Team at Hartlepool Borough Council on 01429 284188.

It was lovely to see that one of our younger children started a 'Pebble Trail of Hope' just outside the school grounds which our pupils who live locally and local residents have added to. Don't worry if you are unable to pass the school as part of your daily exercise as we will provide opportunities for the children to add to it on their return to school.



To conclude this week's newsletter, I leave you with a poem.

When this is over,
May we never again
take for granted
A handshake with a stranger
Full shelves in the shop
Conversations with neighbours
A crowded theatre
Friday night out
The taste of communion
A routine check up
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
The stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself.
When this ends,
May we find
That we have become
More like the people we wanted to be
We were called to be
We hoped to be
And may we stay that way- better for each other
Because of the worst

(Laura Kelly Fanucci)

Please take care and be safe.

Mrs Hill.

Message from Mark Stouph, Chair of Board of Directors

The current situation has presented many challenges for our pupils, staff and the communities in which our schools are part. Despite the challenges, our staff have been able to provide childcare for the children of key workers thereby supporting staff in the NHS and other vital services, along with vulnerable pupils. Teachers have also worked very hard to provide work for children who are working at home and I have been pleased to hear how pupils have continued their studies despite the difficult circumstances. I am particularly grateful to parents, carers and other family members who are supporting our children's studies at home.

The Trust continues to closely monitor the Government's advice in respect of COVID-19 to ensure the safest standards for our teachers, support staff and pupils who are still attending school. We have also been working hard to provide free school meal vouchers to those pupils' families that are eligible.

The Trust Board recognises the key role our schools play at the heart of the communities in which we serve. This has been brought into sharp focus during the current pandemic and our schools are working hard to support not only our children and their families but also the wider community as well. We will keep each school website updated with information on school activities and support.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Trust Board, to wish you and your family our kindest thoughts and look forward to happier times in the future.

Mark Stouph

Chair – Northern Lights Learning Trust