

Dear Woolmore Families,

# Summer term update in times of Coronavirus

#### Firstly

I want to firstly say a big thank you to all of you for all that you are doing to help your children, support the school and do your very best to manage life during this Coronavirus pandemic. It has been challenging for everyone and there has been sadness too. Please know that we miss you all so very much and everyone at Woolmore sends our very best to you and your loved ones.

### Half term

Next week from the 25-29 June is half term and we will be closed. This is so that everyone can have a proper break and the school can be deep cleaned. Please note that there will be no food distribution next week but we will be back with our food offer the week after.

#### After half term

You will have heard that the government would like some primary pupils to start to return during June. There has been a lot of information sent to Headteachers during the last week and some of it has been quite confusing; and, whilst we would all love to be back learning and teaching together, we know that we are still in the middle of a pandemic and that the most important aspect is still being as safe as we can be.

My Leadership Team and the Governing Body have decided that, in line with our school values and having safety at the forefront, we will **not** be opening to all the suggested year groups (Y6, Y1, Reception and Nursery) on June 1<sup>st</sup>. We know that we need more time to plan and prepare, to carry out risk assessments, to change layouts and to look at our teaching capacity before we can feel we can open further. We also want to find out from you, the parents, how you feel about the situation? We will be in touch to find out so that we can plan accordingly.

### Already open for our small group of children of key workers and those who need it

After half term this group will continue to be in school. We continue to review this group and see if there are other children who could safely benefit from the provision.

### Appreciations

Every Friday morning we have a whole staff briefing over Zoom and we have a section called 'Appreciations' when we say a special thank you to staff members who are all working so hard. Here are some appreciations for you:

- Thank you to all the parents who are doing an amazing job of caring for your children and helping them with their learning. We know it can be hard sometimes, but daily reading and exercise is a really good start.
- Thank you to all the children who suddenly didn't have their beautiful school to go to and are now reading online, talking to their teachers on the telephone and hardly getting out. This is a massive change and we understand that it can be hard for you too. Thank you all for being amazing.

# Letter to parents from the Headteacher + 20 May 2020

- Woolmore Primary School
- Thank you for following us on Twitter and more and more of you posting photos to show us what you are doing. This is special to me because it makes me feel more in touch with all of you. We are here @WoolmoreTweets
- Thank you for your using our new Covid website and enjoying the stories, songs, keep-fit, on-line learning and information and support for parents. Check it out here if you haven't already <u>www.woolmore.towerhamlets.sch.uk</u>
- And finally, thank you for all the comments we receive when you come to collect food parcels, or you see a member of staff or you send us an email to say thank you to us. It means a lot.

### Ramadan and Eid

I want to say that I have been thinking about all our Muslim families, colleagues and friends for whom this is a very different kind of Holy Month. I send you all my heart felt best wishes for Eid this weekend.

## Take care

And finally, please take care, be kind to yourselves over half term and we will be in touch after the break with an update to our plans.

Keep safe and know that we will enjoy seeing each other when the time is right.

Ms Argent Headteacher