



Kentish Town CE Primary School Newsletter

Love — Equality — Compassion
Excellent Teaching, Excellent Effort, Excellent Progress:
Every Child, Every Lesson, Every Day

www.kentishtown.camden.sch.uk

Issue 17 : 18th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Reopening

As you may have seen in the broadcast last Sunday, schools may reopen for some children from June 1st. This reopening depends on the government telling us that it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we are making plans for a possible reopening and I wanted to share these with you. As you can imagine there is a great deal to consider. My main concerns are, as always, the safety and wellbeing of our children but also our staff and any parents and carers who visit the school site.

If it is safe to do so, we will reopen for Year 6 children only from June 1st. The children will be taught in separate groups by different staff, as advised by the government. If we (and the children and parents) find this is working well, then we will consider opening for another year group. The government would like us to eventually reopen for children in Ash class (Y1), Oak class (Reception) and Acorns (Nursery). As our school is unusually complex, with many more children with complex needs than a typical school, we will plan very carefully and take decisions when it is safe to do so. Please bear this in mind if you hear of other schools opening differently – each school is very different.

I will let you know when we are given the go ahead to welcome Beech class (Y6) back to school.

Deep Cleaning Our School

As you may know, we have been open for vulnerable children and the children of key workers since school lockdown began in March. Most days we have averaged around 30 children in recent weeks. The school building will be “deep cleaned” during the May half term holiday (25th – 29th May) and so we will not be open for any children during that week.

Drop Off and Pick Up

A reminder to parents and carers who are dropping off and collecting at the main entrance that you must observe social distancing at these times. I know this is very different to warm and informal atmosphere that everyone loves in our school community but for everyone’s safety please model this in front of your child/ren. Thank you.

Home – Learning Survey

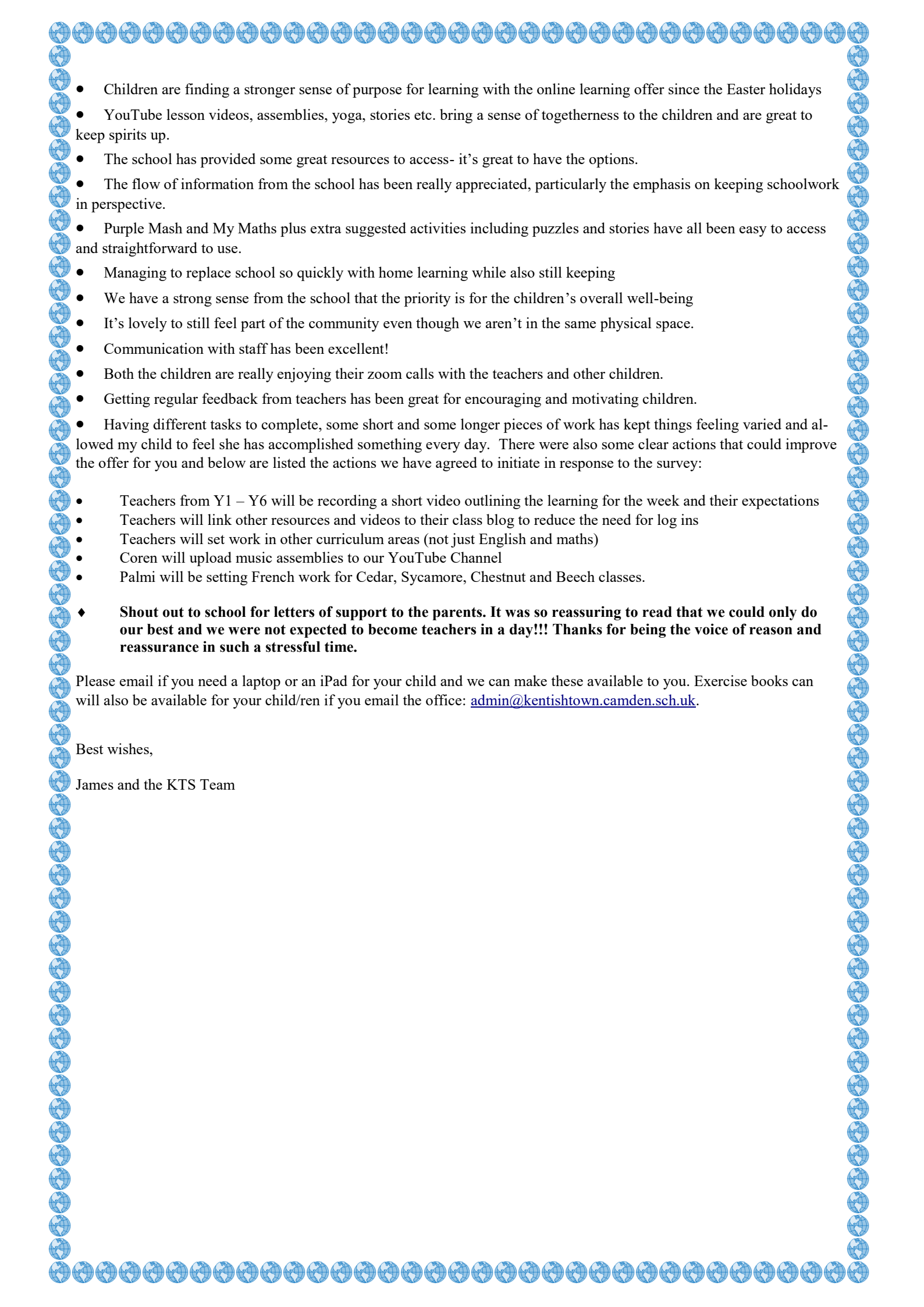
Many thanks to those of you who returned the survey. I am very aware how much of an ask it is for many of you to work from home and to home educate your child/ren as well. You are doing a great job!

Summary of Feedback from Parent Survey- Online Learning

Total number of completed surveys: 19

<u>Statement/Question</u>	<u>% who agree (number of people)</u>	<u>% who disagree (number of people)</u>
The school has provided me with appropriate information to help me home-school my child.	84 (16)	16 (3)
There has been a good balance of learning available to me and my child.	68 (13)	32 (6)
Mini Mash/Purple Mash and other online information have been useful to me.	74 (14)	26 (5)

84% of those who responded were happy with our overall online learning offer. There were some clear strengths in terms of our offer and some clear trends in terms of things you are finding challenging.

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- Children are finding a stronger sense of purpose for learning with the online learning offer since the Easter holidays
 - YouTube lesson videos, assemblies, yoga, stories etc. bring a sense of togetherness to the children and are great to keep spirits up.
 - The school has provided some great resources to access- it's great to have the options.
 - The flow of information from the school has been really appreciated, particularly the emphasis on keeping schoolwork in perspective.
 - Purple Mash and My Maths plus extra suggested activities including puzzles and stories have all been easy to access and straightforward to use.
 - Managing to replace school so quickly with home learning while also still keeping
 - We have a strong sense from the school that the priority is for the children's overall well-being
 - It's lovely to still feel part of the community even though we aren't in the same physical space.
 - Communication with staff has been excellent!
 - Both the children are really enjoying their zoom calls with the teachers and other children.
 - Getting regular feedback from teachers has been great for encouraging and motivating children.
 - Having different tasks to complete, some short and some longer pieces of work has kept things feeling varied and allowed my child to feel she has accomplished something every day. There were also some clear actions that could improve the offer for you and below are listed the actions we have agreed to initiate in response to the survey:
 - Teachers from Y1 – Y6 will be recording a short video outlining the learning for the week and their expectations
 - Teachers will link other resources and videos to their class blog to reduce the need for log ins
 - Teachers will set work in other curriculum areas (not just English and maths)
 - Coren will upload music assemblies to our YouTube Channel
 - Palmi will be setting French work for Cedar, Sycamore, Chestnut and Beech classes.
 - ♦ **Shout out to school for letters of support to the parents. It was so reassuring to read that we could only do our best and we were not expected to become teachers in a day!!! Thanks for being the voice of reason and reassurance in such a stressful time.**

Please email if you need a laptop or an iPad for your child and we can make these available to you. Exercise books can will also be available for your child/ren if you email the office: admin@kentishtown.camden.sch.uk.

Best wishes,

James and the KTS Team