



Miss H Clark
Headteacher

1st June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for choosing our wonderful school for your child. I know what a big decision it is choosing the right setting and how important it is to get the best start. This is a huge milestone for you and your children and something to be celebrated. Here at Westhead Lathom St James' we are very much looking forward to working with you and your children to forge strong home-school links that will benefit their development. We are looking forward to meeting all of the children joining us, and I am sure they will all settle quickly and flourish in our lovely setting.

Obviously this year is one like no other! During this half term we would have usually invited you and your children in to school for a visit and asked your children to stay for some transition sessions. Unfortunately, the current advice being given to us in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic is to avoid having any external visitors in school. This means that our usual sessions cannot take place. However, we do not want you or your children to think we have forgotten about them we want to do all we can to make the transition as smooth as possible and start to build relationships (albeit virtual at this time).

In order to achieve this, our EYFS class teacher Mrs Gardner will be in touch via telephone with those of you who are new to our school setting. Following on from this she will be arranging some Zoom sessions where she can meet you and your children. It is also her intention to hold some group Zoom sessions so that the children can also meet each other. We know that this is not the same as coming into the classroom to play together but we hope that this will go some way toward making your children feel more confident about their start at Westhead Lathom St James'.

Mrs Gardner has also prepared an information booklet with photographs of school which you can share with your child to help prepare them for their start. In addition, there is also a leaflet from the Lancashire Early Years Team enclosed which provides suggestions for activities you can do with your child to help prepare them for their return to nursery/school after COVID-19. There are also some copies of the PowerPoint, which will be on the class webpage, detailing everything you need to know about starting for example, uniform, lunches etc.

If you have any other questions with regards to your child's start, then please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Finally, the plan for how your child will start in September is at the moment unclear, as we await further advice from the County Council. It may be possible to conduct home visits as we usually would and we will be in contact with you as soon as our arrangements can be confirmed.

I know that this is not the start that you will have envisaged however I want to reassure you that we will do everything we can to make it a smooth and happy start for your children.

Kind Regards

Helen Clark
Headteacher

head@wlsj.lancs.sch.uk

Westhead Lathom St. James' CE Primary School
School Lane, Westhead, Ormskirk, Lancs., L40 6HL

Tel/Fax. 01695 574078

email. head@wlsj.lancs.sch.uk

web. www.wlsj.lancs.sch.uk

