

Dear Parents and Carers

Sports Days

I regret to inform you that sports days will be held without parents this year.

I'm so sorry - I know many of you will be disappointed by this. We have been working really hard to find a way to hold sports days in front of parents. That's why we moved the date back to after July 19th when final restrictions are due to lift.

However we have been strongly advised by our Health and Safety team not to proceed. There are a number of reasons for this:

- There is still no government guidance about Covid rules after July 19th, so we don't know what rules we will be expected to follow. This makes planning impossible.
- We are two big schools which means too many people attending. Even if we one year group at a time, and limited tickets to two per child, that's up to 300 people in one place together.
- We would probably still be responsible for managing Track and Trace information, which we are not equipped to do on that scale.
- If there is a case, large numbers of children, parents or staff might have to isolate for the first ten days of their summer holiday. This seems a huge risk, especially as many of you are planning holidays or trips.

You may be aware that very few local primary schools are allowing parents to attend this year. Out of a group of 25 Norfolk local authority schools we are involved with, only two are planning to do so. Of those which are, they are generally small schools and they are restricting numbers to one or two adults per child. Parents are then required to stay in groups of 30. To try and achieve this with the large number of parents we have would be very difficult – parents could find themselves sitting a long way away from their children's races and we don't have enough staff to ensure we can keep children and parents safe. It would be difficult for everyone involved to stick to the rules without putting themselves and others at risk.

The children will still be able to participate in Sports Days. They will now be held in year group bubbles between now and the end of term. We will ensure there are lots of photos available to you on our website.

Meet the Teacher

Monday, 19th July is transition day when we are hoping all our children will be able to meet their new teacher. On Friday, 9th July we will send information via email to you about your child's new teacher which you can share with your child.

Day trips

I'm pleased to say that our trips planned for the week beginning July 12th can still go ahead:

Monday 12th July: **Year 3** to Dinosaur Park

Tuesday 13th July: **Infant School** to Summer Spectacular at the Hippodrome and **Year 4** to Dinosaur Park

Thursday 15th July: **Year 5** to Colchester Zoo

Friday 16th July: **Year 6** to Pleasurewood Hills

Our **Year 6** children and **Year 2** children will also be able to enjoy their Leavers' Discos on July 19th.

But I apologise again that we won't be able to host any events involving parents this term.

Caister Primary Federation

Covid case (that wasn't)

Thank you so much to all our Year 3 and Acorns parents for their fabulous support last Monday when we had to close those two bubbles because of a suspected case of Covid-19. Within a hour of us calling you, all the children and staff were off site. I can imagine what an inconvenience it was to many of you, but it was reassuring to know that we could all react so quickly when we needed to keep everyone safe.

As it happened, a subsequent PCR test proved negative so we were able to have everyone back in school the following day.

Thank you all for your continued support in this most difficult of school years. The children continue to react brilliantly to everything that has been asked of them. We are all doing our very best to give them the best end to the year that we can.

Very best wishes to you and your families

Jonathan Rice
Executive headteacher