



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

It is with sadness that I write this letter, as I know this will create many challenges for all members of our Greenmount Community. We have worked hard to keep the entire school open, despite significant staffing shortages and with so many schools being forced to close (or partially close), much sooner. However, in light of the most recent Government update, schools have been directed to close at the end of the day on Friday 20 March 2020.

In order to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, we need to keep staff in school to an absolute minimum and the school is essentially closed. However, we will ensure that there is, if required, provision in school for the children of **keyworkers**, as defined by the UK Government (such as NHS staff). **If you believe you fall into one of these categories**, and all parents in the same household are unable to source childcare and, as a result, **you believe that you need to send your child into school**, please can you notify us as soon as possible. We will decide based on the criteria released by the Government, at the same time, **taking into account strict social distancing guidelines**.

I know you will have many questions around this whole situation. The circumstances around this virus are changing all the time. Government plans regarding schools have evolved from day-to-day and we still do not have the full information. Please bear with us, we do not have all the answers and are sharing the information we have; any lack of clarity is due to these extreme circumstances and is entirely beyond our control. We really do appreciate your understanding.

**We want all our young people to continue learning. A Seesaw account has been set up for each child and their class teacher will be in regular communication via this platform. A work from home pack has also gone home or can be collected from the main office. I know you will do whatever you can at home to encourage your child to engage in as much learning and reading as possible.**

I wish you all the very best during the school closure, and I hope that you, your families and your friends stay safe and healthy. I would like to remind you of the advice from the Government around this: ensure that you wash your hands frequently and limit all unnecessary travel and social contact. It is crucial that we all play our part and follow these steps to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.

A grab bag packed lunch will be available to collect from the Nursery gate between 12-12.30pm Monday to Friday. This is only for children who are in receipt of pupil premium funding (free school meals). We will text each family to let you know if this is you.

I am so very proud of our entire community at this time. Our staff, pupils and parents / carers have been phenomenal, and we really appreciate all the messages of support from home. A huge thank you to all of you. By working together and by putting such precautions in place, we will get through this and I look forward to writing to you in happier times. We will notify you, via text, when the Government tell us it is safe to do so.

With best wishes.

Miss Carr  
**Headteacher**

**An Adventure  
in Learning**

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