

## Weekly Update

This week we welcomed back Reception children and I was pleased to see that two-thirds of the children returned. They came eagerly into school and enjoyed being back with their friends and the school adults.

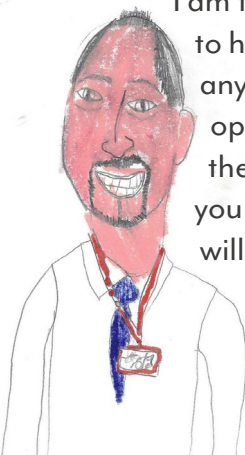
We will be welcoming back Year 1 next week and I will be writing to Year 6 parents early next week about their return the following week. I have included some photographs of the classrooms, so that you can see that they do not look that different to normal.

The Government has announced this week that it is not expecting that pupils from other year groups are going to return to school this term. Whilst this may have come as a shock, their return would not have been possible without a major change in the Government's guidance on keeping children in groups/bubbles of no more than 15 pupils. In order to have Reception, Year 1, Year 6 and our Key Worker children in school, we have 21 bubbles, using 21 classrooms every day, and we only have 24 classrooms in the whole school. In addition to the lack of classrooms, every bubble has at least 2 members of staff and we simply do not have anymore staff to operate more bubbles, as once assigned to a bubble, the staff have to remain within that bubble.

We will consider all our options for the years currently not returning to school and we will continue to provide and develop our Home Learning activities for them.

I am thinking about September and what is going to happen then. At this moment I do not know any more than you. I am hoping that we will be operating as normal, but we will have to see what the government decides. I will, of course, inform you as soon as I hear from the government and I will continue working with the staff and the school governors to get it right for Hitherfield.

**Chris Ashley-Jones**  
Executive Headteacher



CLASS USED BY YEAR 6



CLASSES USED BY YEAR 1



CLASS USED BY RECEPTION

# HITHERFIELD HERALD

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## STANDOUT PEACEFUL PROTEST BANNER

In among the geometry, science, grammar and reading activities in this week's Home Learning Pack, Year 6 were asked to consider and discuss the racism revolution currently happening around the world and prepare artwork for their own peaceful protest banner. The following artwork from Nina Ricco stood out as impassioned and topical. She has included the last words spoken by some of the victims of police brutality.



## Doorstep Portraits

The first round of the PTA's "Doorstep Portraits" are taking place this weekend. If you'd like to be involved please email the PTA on [hitherfieldpta@gmail.com](mailto:hitherfieldpta@gmail.com) with address details and we can get you booked in.



## FACE COVERINGS

Please remember that from Monday 15th June anyone travelling on public transport must wear a face covering/mask.



## Challenging experience

Dear Parents/Carers,

Lockdown has been a challenging experience in lots of ways and many of us have been trying to find ways to maintain our social distance but also maintain our physical and mental health.

So ... I decided to take up mountain biking!! This was providing me an opportunity to do my daily exercise and also allowing me to explore the countryside around me in the glorious weather we had been experiencing.

Unfortunately, this new hobby is also a dangerous one, and it ended up with me having a collision with a tree about 2 weeks ago. Having been stretchered out of the woods by paramedics and whisked off to hospital, x-rays revealed that I had broken my back in four places as well as the neck of my femur (hip). I know this sounds terrible, but I am recovering well and will eventually get back to full fitness.

I am having to spend time at home at the moment (not that it's much different than the new norm) recuperating and making sure I don't do any further damage to myself, meaning I will be absent from school for the next few weeks.

I just wanted to write to let everyone know that firstly that I am fine, but also express my sadness of not being able to come in and support the wonderful effort that everyone is putting in to allow the children of our community to start returning to school.

I will hopefully be able to see everyone before we break up for the summer. Until then, stay safe, and stay away from mountain bikes.

Tom (Assistant Headteacher)