

6th June 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your children had a relaxing half term and are ready for the final half term of this academic year. There will be lots going on, in and out of school this half term - please refer to our weekly newsletters for any new news or events.

Following the recent events in Manchester and London, I wanted to let you know that we have been giving children the opportunity to talk and ask questions about what they may have seen or heard in the news, or heard from their friends. We are ensuring this is done sensitively; without focusing on the specific details of the attacks to prevent frightening or upsetting anyone. For further information about how to discuss these tragic events with your children, please speak to a member of staff or visit the CBBC Newsround website which has some useful articles on how to explain what happened, and what your children can do if they're upset by the news - www.bbc.co.uk/newsround

e-Safety

We are also addressing the important topic of e-Safety again this half term to ensure children really understand the importance of staying safe online – including what is and isn't appropriate to share. Year 5 and 6 pupils participated in internet safety workshops yesterday, led by members of West Yorkshire Police to reinforce this message. Year 3 and 4 pupils will be completing similar work later in the term.

Key Stage 2 pupils will be bringing home a copy of the NSPCC 'Share Aware' leaflet with this letter. Please take time to read this information and discuss the importance of staying safe online with your children at home. Again, if you require any further information please speak to a member of staff.

Term-Time Holidays

The number of children being taken out of school for term-time holidays has increased significantly since Easter which is having a negative effect the attendance of individual children and the school as a whole. Whilst I understand the cost of holidays during the school holidays are much higher than during term-time, I must remind you that in-line with Government policy, I cannot authorise term-time holidays. If you do choose to take your children out of school, you may be issued with a penalty notice. I am working with the other Knottingley primary schools to update our Attendance Policies. I will share more information about this before the end of the academic year.

General Election

A reminder that school will be open as normal on Thursday 8th June despite school being used as a polling station. We are able to lock the internal doors between the hall and the link corridor so no-one will be able to gain access to school from the hall.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'C Mayers', followed by a period.

Miss C Mayers
Head of Academy