



Dear parents / carers: The advice to heads and leaders of schools has been changing on a daily basis. I have been involved in Virtual Meetings with heads, teachers, unions, local authorities diocese every day. During the week advice changed from June 1st reopening to more local flexibility. The government now considers this to be an aspiration. A final decision will not be made until May 28th during the half-term when the school will be closed for everyone. Therefore we may not open at all before September for pupils other than those currently attending. I am working seven days a week to try and ensure we can open **SAFELY** for children and staff alike. Many local authorities are not opening at all. Today's advice from the Independent **SAGE** science group says do not reopen until the spread of the virus has reduced further. Teachers unions have instructed their members not to 'engage' with the process. My own **NAHT** for heads and school leaders advises us to plan for all eventualities and be flexible. 'Relentlessly reasonable' I heard last night.

Remember we have been open since March 23rd for a wide range of pupils and providing help to pupils entitled to free school meals. With all this in mind our plans have been modified so that our key workers and vulnerable children will still attend from on 2nd as normal. That week will see building works, safety checks, training and confidence building of routines established. June 8th hopefully sees Reception return and then Year 1 and Year 6 to follow please God.. We simply do not have space for any other classes with 2 metre social distancing in place. Most schools in our locality are doing the same as us but every single one is different and some may not be able to reopen at all. Some, like our three Hackney Catholic primary schools are taking Year 6 children only from June 8th. I stress the decision is mine and I will not open for more children until we are as ready as we can be. There will also always be risks to children and staff and we have suffered as a school community more than most. So no risks, it's your choice if you wish to send your child in, full information the week of June 1st for everyone. + Thanks to those who have helped remotely this week with various tasks much appreciated. May half-term hope you can enjoy some sunshine and good health.



Pics of the day ... I love this picture taken May 20th of Yakob's rose in our Peace Garden .. an ex-pupil who died aged 9 of a brain tumour in the Whittington.

A bud, a perfect bloom and dying petals.

The full circle of life. As the great Elvis Costello song says

As you turn to walk away As the door behind you closes ... The only thing I have to say ..

It's been a good year for the roses + first glimpse of our new classes with 8/9 desk max.



and finally I never discovered the joy of podcast until lockdown and have been going through Joe Rogan's talks on YouTube. American Bostonian MMA ex champion and ex-stand up comedian and all round great interviewer. He lets people talk and is relentlessly reasonable intelligent and funny unlike most 2 minute soundbite interviewers watched his Eddie Izzard one last night and a new Mike Tyson one worth a look only 12 episodes to go in Breaking Bad finally got round to watching it so half-term maybe a chance to finish stay fit, stay healthy and count your blessings. All things must pass a George Harrison song ... got sent a link to one of the calmest piece of music I have ever heard recently Arvo ..Spiegel I'm Spiegel it's so lovely enjoy the serenity and the half-term.