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COVID-19 UPDATE No 5

Dear Parents & Carers

Just a quick update for you this week as even though it is the Easter break there is still a lot of work going on.

These are this week's updates:

- Yesterday the Government announced its plans for the provision of free school meals while schools are closed. We have received our email to school today which gives us instruction on what to do next in order to set up supermarket vouchers for those families that qualify. We have been told that these will be issued weekly at £15 per child per week (£3 per day). You should then have a choice of local supermarkets where you can use these. We will be working hard on this over the next few days so we can get this set up for you as soon as possible. If you have any questions about this or want some more information about applying for free school meals then just get in touch on my email shown at the end of the letter.
- The Workington Hub for emergency childcare provision for key workers opened on Monday this week. This is based at Distington Community School and is being managed by Miss Angela Quirk the head at Distington. I am supporting Miss Quirk by acting as 'Virtual Head'. This means I do not work on site but manage the parent bookings from across Workington schools. We have a number of staff from across all our schools who have stepped forward as willing and able to volunteer to deliver this childcare over the coming weeks, including some of our own Ashfield staff. We are extremely grateful to these staff for stepping forward at this challenging time. If you think you will need this provision and haven't spoken to me already then please contact me on the email below.
- It was fantastic to see so many of you dancing on Mrs Gibson's video on Monday. This is a great way for us all to keep in touch with each other and I think there are already plans afoot for the next project! It has now had an amazing 5.2 thousand



views on our facebook page. Incredible! If you haven't seen it yet then please take 10 mins to watch it- it will definitely put a smile on your face.

- Finally, remember to ensure that your children are safe at home. They should not be out and about playing in groups at the park or anywhere else. We have seen some reports of other children in the local area still continuing to do this. I hope no one from Ashfield is putting themselves or others at risk. Keep everyone safe.

We hope you are enjoying the Easter break from home learning as much as you can at this difficult time. Please look on our facebook page for ideas and links to holiday activities if you feel you need some inspiration. If not, then enjoy the break. The staff are busy challenging each other with quizzes and baking tasks this week- with a range of successes! We are all realising how much we are missing the children and each other.

If you have any questions then please don't hesitate to contact by email at: head@ashfield-jun.cumbria.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Frost
Headteacher