

Wednesday 8th July 2020

Dear parents and carers

We finish our provision for the summer on Friday 10th July 2020 and begin to get prepared for our reopening in August. We have our packs ready to go out and have prepared a Social Story and Movie to support you preparing your child for returning. It is still difficult to know what it will be like in September but we have done our best to focus on getting everyone back.

There are still questions unanswered and we hope that transport arrangements will be clearer when we return in August. I apologise for all the 'paperwork' that is necessary for your child to return and we will try and help any parent/carer that needs support filling in out from 19th August. Please phone the school if you require help and Mrs Thompson and/or Mrs Shaw will do their best to answer any queries.

Over the years we have had difficult times, we've had a school amalgamation in 2004, we've had buildings not fit for purpose, a fire in 2012 that destroyed 90% of the school, in 2016 we had the challenge of moving to a new school building and over the years we have had challenges as the school grew in numbers and we had not enough classrooms but this has been the most difficult period I have seen.

In saying that I have seen the most heart-warming compassion, the love you have shown to your child, the care, the patience and the inner strength to keep going has been inspirational. I, as the school Principal, am inspired by every parent and carer. This has been so hard on your child and yet you have tirelessly kept going. You know me well enough that at times I have to be distant to try and get the best for your child and at this time I can't really put into words how your child-centred focus has emotionally impacted on me. It is a privilege to be able to be involved with a great staff team in doing the small things we have been able to do and as always we only wish we could do more.

Can I humbly thank-you for every moment of encouragement, of honesty in your darkest moments and your understanding of our own situations as a staff as well. If I could channel the resolve, fortitude, partnerships between home and school, teamwork from a wonderful staff and positivity through some of these darkest moments into our next term, we would indeed return stronger from this as a school community.

None of us know the future or what will happen but let's work together towards brighter days, towards seeing our very special children grow, learn and achieve together. Our mantra through this period has been "do what we can, with what we have". The school has policies and procedures to be adhered that protect the child, staff members and parents and through them we should always strive to take this resolve forward as a school, to put our ethos into action and take up the cause for each child under our care.

Thank you for your understanding, your support and the privilege to get to know your child.

God bless as we look forward to a 'full' return in September, stay safe and well,



Jonathan Gray
Principal

Broadening Horizons for Young People