

Good morning,

During lockdown I was sending regular updates to try and keep in touch. I think now, more than ever, with parents not being able to be on school site or to stop and chat, that sending out this update should continue for the foreseeable future to keep you in touch with what is happening.

Firstly a huge thank you for all your help in ensuring the start of term has gone so smoothly. It hasn't been easy to plan for 210 children to return to school and to ensure that every possible safety measure is in place for our families but your help and support has been so valued by us all at this time.

The morning drop off is working extremely well and is a calm and settled start of the day for the children. We perhaps need to work on pick up a little as a few parents have said that they feel a little nervous with so many people outside the school gates. To ease this pressure we have scheduled pick up times. At 3.05 the gates are open for Reception parents - these are the only children who are able to leave school before 3.15, the official end of school day time. At 3.15, Year 2 and Year 6 parents are called in. At 3.20, Year 5 and Year 1 before finally at 3.25, Year 3 and 4. Parents who have children in more than one year group can arrive to pick up at their first time and collect the other children on route. To ease congestion at the school gate, please stay further away until your time slot and stay socially distanced.

The children continue to be an absolute credit to you. They have come into school smiling and have responded to every safety measure with positivity and by giving it their best effort. I am so proud of them.

The staff are also working really hard to get used to the new systems. A couple of measures for staff are that they have to be on site for as little time as possible and not take children's books home. I know this is proving quite challenging at the moment but it is early days. Our curriculum looks a little different this half term. We are covering Literacy and Maths every morning and then in the afternoons we move to our Recovery Curriculum. This is based around the central theme of Celebrating Me! We are encouraging the children to celebrate everything that is good in their lives and to focus on the positive. Each child has a designated area in their classroom where that can put up anything they are proud of - this can be something they have done in school or something they have achieved outside of school e.g. a photo of a trophy they have been awarded, a cake they have made or a picture of a new family pet. Whatever is special to them can be added to their individual area on their wall of fame!

