

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now 4 weeks into the Autumn Term. The children have settled beautifully and we are all so proud of them. The resilience they have demonstrated and their ability to be flexible and adaptable to their new routines is something to be truly proud of.

Our thanks also go to our parents. The support and help you have shown during these challenging times has been amazing and means so much to us all at school. Those friendly words or messages of support have helped so much throughout what is quite a difficult time. I appreciate some of the systems in place in school can be inconvenient for parents and thank you for your understanding that every measure put in place is for the safety of our children, families and staff.

I think there may have been the hope that we would be working our way through these safety measures and even coming out the other side by now. However, the fact remains that COVID19 is on the rise in Coventry and it seems these measures will be with us for a considerable time moving forward. So once again a huge thank you!

We miss our parents greatly and would love nothing more than to catch up. We know also that you will be wondering how your children are getting on in their new year group. We are currently looking at writing a half term mini report that we can send home in the first week after half term. We are also looking into the possibility of a new video calling service in the hope that teachers can catch up with you through face to face conferencing. Watch this space!

Harvest is approaching and again we are looking into how we can still celebrate this and have that whole school feeling that we all thrive upon. All classes are currently working on a harvest piece. We are hoping to put these on the website so that parents can join in by taking a look.

We have been thinking about the positives in our lives and how thankful we are for all the special things in our lives since returning in September as part of our Recovery Curriculum. Our plan is to link this to the Harvest theme of being thankful and looking after our community. This year as we cannot ask parents for food donations, we are asking for a donation of 50p per pupil. With the money that we collect we are going to buy bulbs, soil and pots. The children are going to plant the bulbs and then each class will decide on a local community place that they would like their potted bulbs to go to. Please could all donations come in to the class teacher by Friday 9th October.

We are dearly hoping to be able to keep all of our children in school. However, it seems that many schools within Coventry have been forced to close bubbles due to a COVID positive test result within the school community. I am therefore sending home our Remote Learning leaflet that will describe what will happen should a whole bubble need to home learn during a period of self-isolation.

Once again, my heartfelt thanks for all your support during this time. Things are still a little different at Sowe Valley and will continue to be for the foreseeable future but we love

having our children back with us at school and look forward to the year ahead as we explore new ways of working together.

Take care
Carole Carter