12th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Keeping in Touch 8

Thank you so much for all your support in getting the children back to school so brilliantly and safely this week.  It has been so lovely to see everyone back and settling in again with their teachers, classmates and friends so quickly.

Of course, there has been some anxiety and readjustment time needed.  This is natural and very much expected and planned for.  School is suddenly much busier again (and noisier!), the children are having to learn to play with each other (and share) again, and 'Home School' was wonderful for so many of the children because of all your hard work, that naturally they miss the time with you (and I know many of you have missed them too!)  However, for the vast majority of the children it has been simply wonderful and like they have never been away.  We have had over 99% attendance which is staggering.  Thank you!  I do think everyone will be very tired this weekend though.  Early nights all round are in order!

Thank you for continuing to support us with all our safety measures.  It is very much appreciated and enables us to keep school open for the maximum amount of time for everyone.  Please see the **attached** letter from the Director of Public Health in CBC which gives additional information in this area too.

Over the coming two weeks, we will be continuing to settle the children further and undertaking fun learning activities to find out where any gaps in learning are due to all the disruption.  After Easter, we will be adapting our curriculum to support children to make some excellent progress during the rest of the academic year.  As you know, and we have already said, we will NOT be putting any pressure on children or teachers to 'catch up' all the lost learning from the past year in one term!  We will plan the 'recovery' over a sustained period, and work with local middle schools, to ensure children 'catch up' at a pace that suits them and enables them to remain happy, confident and thriving at school.  There will be lots more information about this in the future.  For now, simply focus on getting back into a settled and safe routine with your children and enjoy the time you spend together.  We have all learned how precious and special that is during the pandemic.

This will be my last KIT letter for now (fingers crossed!).  I will send out a more usual 'March Newsletter' before Easter, and resume the monthly updates in this format from then on.

Mrs Bunney, Mrs Knight (SEND/Inclusion Lead) and myself all aim to be 'on the gates' in the mornings, the office staff are always available, as well as the office@, pastoralsupport@ and class@ email addresses.  Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any of us if we can do anything at all to help.

In the meantime, a HUGE well done for ALL that you have achieved.  We know this will have been an incredibly stressful, demanding and anxiety inducing period for you.  Thank you for everything.  Big sigh of relief all round: the big return, week one, done!

Have a wonderful weekend when it arrives and please stay safe.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Nicki Walker

Headteacher