

As our academic year draws to a close I felt it important to end our school year. For some of your children, other than their recent transition meeting, they will not have been in school for over the last four months. We have all really missed seeing them and school has not been the same place without them. Seeing them for the first time in months, how they have grown! We have also missed seeing you as parents and being able to share their achievements and happy times with you. This has been a challenging time for us all, trying to juggle working with home schooling and we appreciate how much harder it has been for parents who are not (and perhaps now would rather not ever be one) teachers. Even teachers have found teaching their own children a roller coaster ride, full of ups and downs!

As a staff we were disappointed that the government prioritised certain Yeargroups to return to school after the May half term. Had it been our choice, I would have preferred to have had half of the class in one week, then the other half the following week, so at least all children were able to be in school for some of the time. Unfortunately, promising that all children would be back in school before the end of the Summer term was never going to be achievable under the current government guidelines, specifying that all children had to be in a "bubble" of no more than 15 children and that Reception, Year 1 & 6 children should remain in school and not be sent home, to accommodate other Yeargroups. Quite simply, as I'm sure most of you realised, we just didn't have enough teachers! Preparing for the return of Reception, Year 1 and 6 children was also certainly a challenge, bearing in mind the guidelines changed 41 times before we finally reopened! Thank you to Mrs Dewar and Lily (Maple class) for creating such a positive memory of our children during Lockdown. The banner looks amazing!

All of our teachers since 2nd June, have had a full time teaching commitment, on top of providing home learning for those children not currently in school. I am extremely proud of all of my staff, teachers, Learning Support Assistants, office staff and Premises staff, all of whom continued to work in school through Lockdown in March, teaching Key Worker and vulnerable children. I also know from the very positive comments we have had from so many of you, that you have appreciated the online work provided for your child. It makes me feel very disappointed when I hear that other children from other parts of the country have not had such a positive experience as our children. Teachers have also been busy writing a report for your child, largely based on their learning from September to March.

However, I am delighted that we shall be welcoming all children back to school in September. You will all receive information about this within the next few weeks, once we have all had time to fully digest the government guidance and ensure nothing has changed, as well as plan our risk assessments for the autumn term. We will be continuing with our scrupulous hygiene routines on our return. We would also ask each child to bring in a pack of disinfectant wipes, as their table will be cleaned during the day, as will their classroom and toilet door handles etc. Start and finish times will be staggered, but the school day will be the normal length. Details to follow.

Staffing – We say goodbye to Mrs Rap, who kindly taught Hawthorn class during the Spring term. We are also saying goodbye to Ms Doke, who is taking up a place at university. We wish both of them luck in their new beginnings and thank them both for their hard work. As from September, Mrs Howard will be taking changing her role at Holy Trinity and will be our new Inclusion Manager. I am delighted to welcome three new teachers to our staff team, Mrs Hayden, Miss Horsfield and Miss Newton, who will be teaching in Year 1 and 5 respectively. Our teachers are as follows: Apple Class – Mrs Dell & Mrs Widdows, Beech Class – Mrs Lopez, Chestnut – Miss Horsfield, Damson – Mrs Leneghan, Elder – Mrs Bull and Mrs Hayden, Hawthorn – Ms Dobson, Juniper – Mrs Macwhinnie & Mrs Morris, Lime – Miss Pullen, Maple – Miss Rap, Oak- Mrs Stenning, Pine – Miss Newton, Rowan – Miss Marshall, Silver Birch – Ms Dawson & Mrs Vander, Willow – Mrs Saunders & Mrs Smitherman. We also welcome Miss Kerr, Miss Martin & Mrs Nicholson to our Learning Support Assistant team. I would also like to thank my wonderful staff for all their hard work, commitment and loyalty to our school and children.

PTA I would like to thank our fantastic PTA, who have raised so much money for our school, which has been used on things to benefit our children, as well as running fun events for the pupils. Thank you also for the chocolate and treat hampers given to staff during this challenging time, as well as those given by Key Worker parents during Lockdown. They were very much appreciated, **Year 6** Today, we say goodbye to our Year 6 children, who are heading off to secondary school. They have been a fantastic Year 6, worked hard, behaved well and been such good role models for our younger children. They have coped magnificently on their

return to school, going straight back to work, without a grumble! The children were all so excited to be able to do our traditional Year 6 production and thank you especially to the Year 5 & 6 teachers and Learning Support Assistants, in particular Mrs Langhorn, who went over and above to make this production as fabulous as it normally is, especially in such challenging times and keeping to the bubbles. The children were very excited about being still able to do this and |I think it helped them focus on their last half term and gave a great end to their primary school career. Their Year 6 Leaver's service was also a very emotional time for children, parents and staff and thank you to Father Michael for leading us in it. We send our Year 6 children off to secondary school with our love and best wishes for their future, we know they are going to be very successful!









I wish you all a very relaxing time with your families and friends this summer and look forward to seeing you all in September