

Dear parents and carers,

We have reached the end of Half Term, although the difference between term time and half term will possibly not seem that great. Parents have had lots of long and intense email communication from me over the last half term. I am hoping this one will be shorter and lighter!

Firstly, I would like to pass on my huge appreciation for the work you are doing in educating your children at home. You are all superstars! We may ask you for a report on your child's progress when they do return, because they will have learned so much and you will have learned so much about how they learn. (Only joking about the report, but we will need to make sure that this information does not get lost in the return to school. Something to think about.)

You will have seen from Sharon Peer's email, that we are not able to accommodate all the year groups outlined by the government. We are especially disappointed not to be able to welcome back our Year 6s at this point. We very much hope that future changes in guidance will allow us to have time with Year 6 before they formally leave primary school. We promise we will make their end of primary school experience special – we just don't know what this will be allowed to look like yet.

Over the time we have been closed to most pupils, we have used the opportunity to do some work on the grounds, led by Tarn Garner and Calum Gawthrop and with some help from Bourn Club children. The pond in the Nature Reserve has been renovated and is also now teeming with newts! The garden area in the willow courtyard is also being re-developed with raised beds surrounded by sleepers. The school building has been thoroughly cleaned and all the cupboards have been sorted through. The carpets are also being deep cleaned over half term.

I am very hopeful that next term will see a gradual return to school as we know and love it. For parents of those children who will be returning first, we will be sending information after half term about which groups, classrooms and adults they will be with, and what school will be like when they return. Everything we put in place will aim to balance safety with normality for the children.

Finally, once again, I would like to thank the school staff, who have worked so hard and so cheerfully on developing our plans, which have had to change a number of times. We all have our own worries and anxieties about entering the next phase, but the staff have put these to one side in order to focus on what is right for the children and how to do this in the safest way possible. They are brilliant and I thank them from the bottom of my heart.

Have a good half term.

Best wishes,

Laura Latham

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