



Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Methodist Primary School



Forgiveness Friendship Trust Justice Perseverance
Communication Independence Aspiration Engagement

22nd July 2020

Dear Parents

After my mammoth letter last week, I thought I might try to keep this shorter but do feel I may have failed... We have made it to the end of the school year and one that has seemed to go on and on. As has been said on a number of occasions by me, along with others that know far more than I do, we are living in unprecedented times. We could not have predicted everything that happened and I don't think any of us would have been able to predict how we would cope with it all. As a school I am incredibly proud of what we have done and this includes the staff, the children and you. Just focusing on you for a moment, thank you for being so supportive throughout all of this. There have been so many kind words directed towards me and the staff and as we feel our way around in the dark with all this hearing that we have got it right in many ways is such a boost. I have always said that I have tried to be honest and open and thinking back to some of my letters perhaps I have been a little too honest at times!

Regardless of this, thank you. I really do hope you look back and feel proud of how you have coped with the situation. Many parents have said that they are grateful for having time with their children and these are the sort of positives we must look for. The other positive, and certainly a big one, is that hopefully you are well and healthy and have avoided the devastating impact that Covid has had on so many people across the world. If there is ever a time to say thank you for what we have, those we have around us and in particular our children, then now is probably it.

Hopefully your children have been a credit to you and I hope you are feeling proud of them. We all know that homework can be a bit of a pain at the best of times for us parents so to have months and months of home learning has I'm sure tested the patience and tolerance levels of the best of you. But it is difficult for the children too, they are not in their natural learning environment and children learn in groups, with peers and bouncing ideas of each other. I have no doubt they will respond positively to being back in school in September but if they don't we have the staff and structure to support them.



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Of course year 6 will be leaving us today. It has been very hard for them and not least because they had worked so hard to prove what they can do in the SATs as well as missing out on various end of year treats. However they have continued to smile throughout and I think Mr Warner, Mrs Cottenden and the rest of the current year 6 team have created many happy memories for them. Of course we wish them well for the future. They are a special bunch of individuals that we are all very proud of.

This leads me to the staff. I feel like I do say this but probably not often enough. They have been amazing throughout all this and I know so many of you are grateful for what they have done for you and your children. However our school simply could not have operated as it has without such a willing and resilient team. The decisions I have made have been so much easier because I know everyone is behind me and I am aware that this isn't always the case in other schools. Even as we plan for September their message to me is the same: we will do what needs to be done. It seems to me that that line goes very well with our '*doing all the good that we can*' motto. As I say, not every Headteacher is as fortunate as me when it comes to the approach of the staff. This is also the case with governors, a supportive bunch who have the interests of our children and families at the heart of all they do.

I wish you all a very enjoyable summer. I hope you are able to relax a little, see friends and family, visit places and enjoy the surrounding area. I hope restrictions are lifted for us all to do that safely and for us to remain well. I will write to you again before the start of term to remind you of the arrangements with a few added minor details that have cropped up since my letter last week.

Please take care and remember to look after yourselves and your children.

Yours sincerely

Mr S J Way