

A Transcript of Mrs Phillips' Welcome to the Summer Term.

Slide 1

Hello everyone. Welcome back to the summer term of Hawridge and Cholesbury Church of England School.

It's all a little bit different isn't it? I'm very aware that normally I would be standing at the top of the alleyway welcoming you all in, shaking your hands and then we would probably be having our first assembly altogether. Well we will be doing that again shortly, but in the meantime I wanted to welcome you back and wish you well in the summer term ahead.

Slide 2 (Outside blackboard)

I've been thinking a lot about time. How valuable time is and how valuable this time is. Time spent with our families, time spent on phones to friends, family and relatives, time spent on our daily exercise; and how we can look at that in a different way and really appreciate every minute that we've got.

Slide 3 (Garden)

This is happening to us at a time when there is a lot of change. It's springtime, the grounds are coming alive, the bulbs are coming out, things are starting to grow, and the world around us is changing.

Slide 4 (Frog, birds)

I stood by the pond today, I looked at the frogspawn, the blackbird was singing his heart out above in the tree, a woodpigeon was cooing and the kites, of course, never far away. It's a really important time to be able to take that time to look, to think, to listen, to observe and to learn from what's around us.

Slide 5 (Girls in tree tunnel)

But of course we're not able to spend all of our time outside, and we are having to learn to enjoy learning in a different sort of way and I know you'll be good at that because you've always been good at learning in different ways. And this is the time when we are making memories, because there is no doubt in my mind that all of us, living through this rather unusual and strange period in history, will remember it for the rest of our lives.

Slide 6 (Make memories)

Some of you will recognise this slide. I've shared it many times before, about my own memories of my childhood and the things that stuck in my mind. I wonder what will stick in your mind from this time. It's really important that you use this time wisely and really make the most of it. You are making memories that will stick with you for the rest of your life.

Slide 7 (It might not be easy)

It's not going to be easy. It isn't easy. There will be challenges, but I have confidence that you will overcome them because you're really, really good at that. You're really good at rising to the challenges and doing your absolute best.

Slide 8 (Challenge yourself)

So, it's a great time to challenge yourself. It's a great time to learn something new, to try and master something really tricky. In my family we call that a puzzle that we hadn't done that's really quite difficult and we haven't done for a good reason but we've done it now, we've mastered it and we've overcome it.

What will you overcome? Learning to ride a bike maybe. Maybe you will become an expert den builder. Maybe you will be a watercolour artist. Maybe you'll be the cake baker of the house or maybe you will be growing your own vegetables. Whatever it is, whatever you master, whatever you overcome, however you use this time, make sure it's valuable and come back to school and tell us all about it. Show us the pictures, bring us the carrots you grew. We want to know all about it, what you've done.

Slide 9 (Most importantly)

It's really important, we've got this gift of time, that we use it really well; but most importantly we need to stay healthy, so keep safe, look after each other and we'll be ready for you (we are looking forward to seeing you) when you come back.

Slide 10 (Be proud)

Be proud of yourself. We are so proud of you.