

Wednesday 22nd July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Well we have finally made it to the end of the year. And what a year it has been! Never in our wildest dreams (nightmares), could we have predicted the situation we all found ourselves in from March this year.

This has certainly been the most challenging year in my career as a headteacher. These unprecedented times have been very tough and have tested us all in many ways, adults and children alike. I just want to say a massive **THANK YOU** to each and every one of you. I know it has been a struggle for many at times, but you have worked so hard supporting your children and you should be proud of what you have achieved, and so should the children.

I also want to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all the staff for their 'outstanding' contribution to the school and community. I am incredibly proud and humbled to lead such an amazing and dedicated team. Their support has been unrelenting, as they have gone over and above in the support they have given over the last 5 months, whether in the school based or home based teams.

Since the beginning of June, it has been a joy having some of the children back in school from Reception, Year 1, Educare and more recently, the Year 6. These children have been incredible in their adaptability and resilience, and settled back into school and the new routines with ease. I hope that this will be the experience of all the children, when they all come back to school in September.

I know that many of you are feeling nervous about the return to school but want to reassure you that the plans we have in place will mean that we are doing this as safely as possible, following the guidance published by the Government. After the safety of children, our priority is the children's mental wellbeing. They will understandably be feeling nervous after such a long period of time out of school. On their return, there will be a period of 'Recovery' to support the children in the many ways they will need, in order to feel safe and secure in school and ready to 'catch up' with their learning. You can see these plans on our school website in the Curriculum Recovery September 2020 section.

I also want to say **goodbye and THANK YOU to Mrs Cleverley**, who has been our temporary Reception Class teacher. Despite only being with us since the start of term 4, you have been a great part of the Marlborough staff team. We wish you the very best of luck for the future and will miss you very much.

I wish all the Year 6s leaving Marlborough, all the very best as they start at secondary school in September. Remember all the 6 Marlborough characteristics of learning and go and be the very best you can.

I am also very much looking forward to meeting all the new Reception children starting with us in September.

We all now need a well-earned rest, so that we come back in September, refreshed and ready to start the new school year, whatever that may bring.

Stay safe and well

Best wishes

Miss Summers