

'Achieving Excellence through Leadership'

# GILES JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Miss. L. Whitby

Thursday, 17 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday

I write this letter from isolation having been in contact with a positive case (outside our school setting). It has no doubt been a Coronacoaster of a term!

We wanted to thank our families (again) for their patience. We undoubtedly have all been on a rather steep learning curve this term, overcoming many barriers as we went along. I would genuinely like to thank those families who did have issues and brought them straight to the school. We are always grateful for the opportunity to work through problems and strive everyday to be the best school we can be. We found that in the overwhelming majority of cases we were able to find a solution. Thinking of a third alternative (think win win) has been a strength of everyone during this difficult time.

We know that families have, at times, been frustrated with changes we felt we needed to make. However, we have managed to have a smooth finish to the term. We will endeavour to keep the spring term running as smoothly as the past few weeks while we await the precious vaccine, which will see us return to our normal routines.

It goes without saying that every member of staff is very proud to work at Giles Junior School and to work in Stevenage. We teach our children to be proud of being part of this community too. I would end with a final plea to make sure that any issues which arise are brought to the attention of the school rather than through social media platforms. The sooner any problems are brought to our attention then the more swiftly they can be dealt with on a one to one basis. We hope we can count on families maintaining the positive view so that your children can be proud of their contribution to school life as well. Having this positive outlook in the family home has a dramatic impact on their attitudes to learning. We always reiterate with the children to find an adult to speak to if they have worries. We would love for families to practise what we preach in terms of this important proactive behaviour.

A quick reminder that the [COVID@gilesjm.herts.sch.uk](mailto:COVID@gilesjm.herts.sch.uk) email address will be checked daily for any alerts so we can continue to keep everyone safe and well during the festive period. Thank you so much for kind cards and gifts. They are genuinely received with gratitude and we wish you a happy and special time with your loved ones during this time.

See you in 2021!

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

