

DELIVERY FOR *Sauncey Wood Parents and Carers*

This year has been eventful in so many unexpected ways. As always, I am proud of the resilient, supportive and compassionate school community we have, which has ensured the consistency for our children and their families during these times. I make no apologies for once again saying, 'Thank you'. Whether our staff and children are learning together remotely, or in class together, their efforts and achievements are astounding.

Each and every one of our families and members of staff have gone above and beyond; we are so very grateful. Throughout my career I have always told people, when asked what I do, that I love my job as every day is different; that there is nothing better than working with our young people who have an unlimited capacity to amaze. Since September, nothing could be truer than that. This term has been a challenge for everyone and certainly could not have been predicted.

I will, though, reflect on two sets of people. The first are the children themselves. The vast majority adapted to home learning when isolating with an admirable enthusiasm and commitment, managing to keep up to date with much of their work. They returned to school, to bubbles and quite strict rules and have been a credit to everyone. Having been thoroughly assessed by staff, many children have also been taking part in additional Reading and Maths sessions to assist their progress this term.

Progress in lessons continues to be good, and overall the desire to learn and be part of school life is, if anything, stronger for what has taken place. The children should be proud of what they have achieved; each one of them deserves a lot of credit as they reach the end of what has been a successful term. Thank you parents for trusting us to minimise risks as much we can. We are well aware that many of you have your own concerns and worries, and hope that we have alleviated them, even if just a little.

The second set of people are the staff who switched at speed between on-site provision to additional remote learning when required. They have coped well with the ever-increasing demands that are placed on them, some overcoming significant personal worries, stresses and anxieties, to make sure that the children's experiences have been as normal as possible. There is no doubt the strain this has placed on them. The additional measures to ring fence classes, setting work for self-isolating students as well as teaching normal lessons has been wearing for all, and the increase in duties tiring. The overall vibe is positive all the same and as always, I cannot thank them enough for their professionalism. As a school, we are proud of what we continue to offer our children.

On this note it just leaves me to say that I wish everyone a restful and peaceful Christmas break, which is both enjoyable and healthy for one and all. It is certainly a break I am looking forward to in order to recharge a little before returning for what the spring term brings. On behalf of all the staff at Sauncey Wood Primary, I would like to wish you all a very happy and Merry Christmas. Thank you – again - for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Lloyd

