

Dear Welton Families

It has been a privilege to be part of the Welton community during the last year, today marking a full year since the first school closure. It has and continues to be the hardest of times and sadly people round the world continue to suffer as a result of the virus.

I would personally like to commend and thank you all for what you have done for your children and your community during this period. When the time comes to celebrate (and we all pray this is soon) we will have so much to be grateful for; our children, our families, our community and our futures. This really does seem like the last push to a brighter time. I am sure if we work together to encourage and support each other, when our motivation to distance, stay home and keep within our bubbles is at an all-time low, we can do this.

The children have returned to school successfully and are coping incredibly well with the transition and change. You would be very proud if you could see how they have returned to classroom teaching and the many systems of control we have in place. We have lots of different ways to support the children so if you are concerned your child is finding this tricky please let us know.

You may be aware from the press that the re-opening of schools has inevitably resulted in year and school closures in both primary and secondary schools in the county. We are continuing to implement enhanced systems of control to prevent this if at all possible and there are things we can all continue to do to further strength this. Lateral flow testing is designed to check for the virus where there are no symptoms and you can access these tests at the Humber Bridge test centre. When your child or family member has symptoms, the rules state a PCR test must be sought at a centre. A negative lateral flow test for a child with symptoms would not enable a return to school. We thank you for your support with this, avoiding year group and school closure is the number one priority.

Currently, we are working hard to help the children be safe, build resilience for classroom learning and identify any specific foci for learning arising from concepts and skills that require re-visiting. Alongside this we must prioritise the emotional well-being of our children, they will need time to make sense of it all.

Thank you to the team of Welton. Working through two lockdowns has been an incredible way to contribute to the community but has at times tested the emotional resilience of the team. I have so much gratitude for the work and dedication shown. For the team members that have been on call and available for the last twelve months almost "24/7" - you have been amazing.

Finally, thank you again to you, our families. You are the heart of Welton School and your children are the reason we enter the building each day, determined to go the extra mile to give them the very best as they absolutely deserve.

*"Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well" Voltaire*

Kindest regards

Mrs Nikki Pidgeon