



*"Do all the good you can,
by all the means you can."*

John Wesley

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Dear Parents & Friends,

Tomorrow marks the end of this academic year, 2019/20 ... and what a strange year it has been! There is no better word than the now overused cliché "unprecedented" to describe the events of the past 4 months. It is not only the extraordinary measures that have been taken to mitigate this crisis that make it astonishing, but how far-reaching the impact of Covid-19 has been felt - a truly global pandemic. There is little doubt that we are living through a significant period of history; one which will be spoken about for generations to come.

I sincerely hope that, in years to come, our children will speak fondly about this time when schools had to close and families were made to stay at home. Our children soon grow up, and as difficult as it has been at times to juggle work and family, I hope you have all been able to make the most of this extra-ordinary time together.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank, again, all our parents for supporting their children with their learning during this time, and the staff for facilitating this. Over the last 4 months, the teachers have set around 1,000 activities on Tapestry and Google Classroom. The children have each been set around 200 assignments, including at least 65 maths and 65 English tasks, as well as dozens of other computing, geography, history, science, RE and art related activities. The Juniors have completed 13 spelling tests of 15 words each (that's 195 words!) and the infants have done dozens of phonics and spellings activities. A huge well done to all those who have kept their learning ticking over throughout this period.

Class of 2020

Although we have not been able to say farewell to our Year 6 leavers in the traditional way, I am sure that they all know just how valued and loved they are. They will always be part of the Holmeswood School family and will live in all our memories, in the same way that the school will live in theirs.



I am confident that this will not be the last we see of Arthur, Ella, Freddie, Grace, Isla, Jack, Maggie, Matthew & Rory. All being well, we will be able to give them a fitting send-off in the Autumn Term - keep an eye out for the date!

Year 6, we wish you all much happiness, good-health and prosperity in the future.

Farewell

Mrs Debbie Broadbent, one of our teaching assistants, retired at the end of April. She started working at Holmeswood around the turn of the millennium, so it is fair to say she has served her time! Over the past 20 years Debbie has influenced the lives of many



children and been a valued member of our school team. I am sure you would like to join me in thanking her for her contributions and wishing her a long and happy retirement.

Learning Over Summer

It is important that your child continues to exercise their brain, even during the summer holidays! Reading regularly will benefit them all immensely when they return to school in September. They will also have continued access to all the usual resources:



School Dinners

Sadly, Yummy Catering who have been supplying our school meals & junior fruit for the last 3 years, can no longer do so from September. We have therefore arranged for our meals to be provided by Mellors Catering Service - prepared in a local primary school kitchen and transported to us each day, starting Monday 7th September. Menus for bookings are available on School Money.



During the first 4 days of term, we ask that you provide your child with a packed lunch please.

Taylor of Tarleton will be supplying fruit for Junior Snack.

September

Our current plan is to open fully to all pupils on Tuesday 1st September, including our before and after school childcare clubs. It is likely that the next time you hear from me will be towards the end of August when I will hopefully be able to confirm this to be the case.

On behalf of all the staff and governors, I would like to wish you all a very happy holiday. Stay safe, and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Mr Higson