



Westerton Primary Academy

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Leodis
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Trust



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17th July 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Colleagues

Covid 19 – final update for the Summer Term

It seems extraordinary that this is our final letter and the end of this term has actually arrived. What a time it has been! The word 'unprecedented' may well have been over-used at this time but it remains appropriate. However, in spite of all the usual lovely events which have had to be cancelled this term, there have been some lovely highlights which have demonstrated how close our community is and how much we have all pulled together.

Our teaching colleagues were very keen to provide end of year **Reports** for our children, to celebrate the way they have coped with the crisis and to value their individual achievements throughout the year. The positivity of parents receiving these has been very much appreciated and we do want to thank all our children for their hard work and resilience during this time. You have all actually helped to keep us going and to ensure the Reopening Plan for June has gone smoothly.

Following the release of the letter to parents in Leeds, from the Director of Children and Families, we now turn our attention to the detailed **Reopening Plan for September** and our **Rationale** which fully explains and justifies the strategy for our unique context. Copies of the documents are being distributed and will be uploaded to the website. Please do consider them carefully as you prepare to return to us in the Autumn Term. Further information will come to parents to share which 'bubble' their child will attend in the first week following our INSET Day on September 7th.

We would like to thank you all for participation in the Zoom carousel transition meetings and the Class Assemblies. We cannot tell you what a relief it is when the internet works and the technology performs for us as it should. We have even been able to bid farewell to our remarkable Year Six pupils who will be sorely missed next year. Our thanks go to them for their stoical return to school during this last half, leading the way for our younger children and showing a real determination to make the most of their last weeks with us. Stay in touch Year Six.

Our Writing Competition added that extra spark to the last few weeks and we are very pleased to announce the following winners from each year group:

Reception – Olivia S
Year One – Isobel T
Year Two - Jorja
Year Three – Jake P-M
Year Four – Connie
Year Five – Shriaansh
Year Six – Charlie F

Many congratulations to all of you budding authors, your work will be shared on the academy website and prizes will be handed over by your Class Teachers, well done!

Earlier this academic year, you will remember we suffered the tragic loss of Jessica, one of our pupils in Year Four. Jessica was a wonderful character and we wish to commemorate her life and the privilege of her time with us at Westerton as we move forward through the Autumn Term. In negotiation with Jessica's family, we are planning a ceremony on Friday, 23rd October 2020. Details of the ceremony will be given as the date approaches and we will also be working to support our nominated charity for next year, '**Children with Cancer UK.**' We look forward to a busy year of fund-raising, doing Jessica proud. I would like to join our parents in saying a final huge 'thank you' to our entire, rather wonderful, staff team. Their commitment, professionalism and collaborative support of each other is endlessly inspiring and I am truly grateful to them all. Our Governors too deserve a special mention, again, their support has been unstinting throughout this difficult time and we thank them whole-heartedly.

In conclusion, to the fabulous parents and pupils of our very special community, the staff applaud your engagement, support and positivity. Your correspondence and warmth has consistently lifted our spirits when the challenges have been close to overwhelming, we could not have done this without you. Please do have a wonderful break, keep safe and well and return to us in September ready for action!

Very best wishes

Stephanie Makin
Principal and your Westerton Team