



Eaton Primary School



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Headteacher : Mr Allan Lowe

Dear Parents

A Seasonal End of Term Message from the Headteacher



This final communication from myself at the end of term, is a brief reflection on the journey the school community has been on during this year of unprecedented events.

It has been heartening to witness, from the start of the first lockdown back in March, all the way through to the end of this term, everyone rallying around to support the wellbeing of the school and wider community.

We all know that it has been an incredibly difficult time for families. There has been widespread disruption to work and income, uncertainty about the future, demands from children learning at home, and the anxiety caused by the virus and its effects on our families and loved ones. Everyone has their own personal story.

Yet despite these many huge challenges, families have got through to the Christmas season with what seems to me, a positive spirit and determination.

Parents who are front line workers, so many of whom we have at our school: NHS, education, supermarket and all the other essential service workers, have been at heightened risk throughout the year. I know I speak for many when I say that we owe a debt of gratitude for the work they have been doing over the many months and continue to do. Hospitals, schools and shops have all kept going throughout the summer and into the winter; giving us hope through some of the most difficult times for our community.

Throughout the whole of the crisis, parents have just been amazing. Taking the time to send kind words of support and encouragement to us at school. It really has kept us going and I cannot thank everyone enough.

The school has of course had to respond with urgency to successive changes of government policy, often at extremely short notice. My gratitude to the entire team at Eaton cannot be over-stated. Everyone at school has met every new challenge, with what has been boundless positive energy and camaraderie. I am personally incredibly appreciative of the support I have received from every single member of our school, when making challenging decisions this year.

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And this positive ethos has been present in every aspect of the school. From the superb teaching in our class bubbles, to the administering of first aid. From the relentless focus on pupil wellbeing, to the continuous support from our school office. Everyone has selflessly made their contribution.

But what has been in many ways most impressive, has been the fortitude and resilience of our children. Our older children, with greater understanding of the situation, have had to cope with things we would never usually expect them to deal with. And our younger children, many in their first years of schooling, have had to adapt in extraordinary ways. They have been truly inspiring. Social distancing has not diminished their spirit, nor their capacity to learn and bring joy to us all.

Although the end to this dreadful time is in sight, we have some little way to go yet. However, we can all begin to look forward to the time when the school can fully reclaim its routines and connections with parents and community. Thankfully, it seems that we do not have long to wait!

In the meantime, I wish everyone the very warmest seasonal greetings and a safe holiday, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school for an exciting new term in January.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Lowe
Headteacher

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