



Friday 3rd July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are keeping safe and well during these challenging times.

Although we are missing everyone very much, it has been wonderful to welcome back a number of our children from Reception and Year 1 over the past week and to see how smoothly that they have adapted to the 'new normal' here at school. We also continue to have the children of key workers and a small number of Kindergarten children at school along with Year 6, who we are working with to support their transition to secondary schools.

You no doubt will have heard the announcement about the government's aim to have all pupils back at school in September. Over the summer, the school will be closed for all pupils – there will be no childcare for the children of key workers - but we will be busy preparing for the full return of everyone. Guidance was issued yesterday and over the next few weeks, we will be revising our risk assessments and plans to enable us to safely welcome everyone back in the new term. As soon as we have the detail of how this will be organised, we will be in touch. When we do return, there will be some new faces joining the staff at The Ridge. We will be welcoming three new teachers, Miss Wesson, who will be teaching Year 3, Miss Howarth, who will be teaching Year 4 and Miss Coggan who will be in Year 5. Miss Coggan has been appointed as our new Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator and will be liaising with Mrs Hunt during the summer and early next term as she takes on this role in school. Mrs Burley (Kindergarten), Mrs Melia (Reception), Miss Carrington (Year 1), Mrs Ryder (Year 2) and Miss Ball (Year 6) will remain in the year groups they taught last year.

Before the end of term, we will be sending out the children's reports by email. As you may remember, we had already planned to change our report format this year and were going to issue a short interim report at the Spring Term Parents Evening, however at the start of the pandemic these meetings were cancelled. As the end of the year approaches and recognising that there has been a significant amount of time away from school for most children, we have decided to send you the Spring Term report, reflecting the position at that time and supplement it with an abridged summer report, which has the class teacher's general comment on it. You will therefore receive two documents but only the general comments section of the new summer format has been completed. The Department for Education has said that schools are not required to report on attendance this year. As parents are aware, for Year 5 pupils, the situation is a little more complex because Miss Thompson's absence meant that we did not have the Spring Term reports ready before she left. This means that unfortunately for this year group, there will only be a general comment, written by Miss Yildiz, with some contributions from other staff in school who know the children. We recognise that



this is less than ideal but hope that you will understand that we have done the best that we can, given the unusual circumstances.

It has been lovely to keep in touch with you through home learning and when we have seen some of you when you have been to collect your PE kit or drop off your clarinet. We are all looking forward to welcoming you back in September and all being together again. I will be writing to you again before the end of term but in the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact us if there is anything we can help with and stay safe.

Kind regards

Mrs D Hudson
Headteacher