



'Respectful and resilient; being the best that we can be.'

Timothy Hackworth Primary School



17th July, 2020

To all of our Timothy Hackworth Families,

Following incredibly unique Spring and Summer Terms, nothing quite like what we have ever experienced before, I do hope this letter finds you all safe and well.

Now that August is just around the corner, and the school holidays are almost upon us, I would like to wish you all well for the Summer that lies ahead.

Myself and the staff in school have had the privilege of working with many children who have joined us in school over the Lockdown period. They have been amazing, taking everything in their stride and remaining positive throughout, which I think is something they all ought to be really proud of.

For those children who have not had the opportunity to come into school, or where circumstances have not allowed for this to be the case, we send our good wishes to you all. Myself, and all of the staff in school, have really missed seeing all the children together in our Timothy Hackworth School Family.

We are all very much looking forward to seeing all of the children back to school in September. I can't wait to see everyone back and for us to be all together once more. Thank you mums, dads, grandparents and other family members, who have had a good go at our Home Learning, who have tried to make the best of a very difficult situation; I hope that you have all managed to enjoy some quality time together.

It is the time of year to wish our wonderful Year 6 children all the very best on their secondary school journeys. I know that they will go on to achieve great things; that they will be confident, independent and respectful young people who will continue to make a positive difference to our world. Keep in touch Year 6 – we miss you all already! You have certainly made us all very proud.

And last, but by no means least, my special thanks to our wonderful staff, who always have the children's best interests at heart, and who have very quickly adapted to very new ways of working over the last five months. Our teachers and teaching assistants, who have been incredibly creative and committed, have looked after our children during the Lockdown period making sure that your children have been happy, safe and cared for every school day. Mrs. Winterburn has cleaned our school from top to bottom, tirelessly, day in and day out for five months; the brass door handles are the shiniest that we have ever seen. Mrs. Goyns and Mrs. Place, who have provided thousands

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of packed lunches since March, and bake the best school biscuits in town; we have all been partial to the occasional one or two! Thank you to our Administration Team who have dealt with many queries and phone calls; Mrs. Greaves who is an expert in ordering large quantities of hand gel for a very good price; our Cleaning Team who have kept our school all polished, shiny and hygienic; our Site Manager, Mr. Walton, who has kept our school safe and has placed many a cone and yellow sticky arrow around our school both inside and out; our SEND and Pastoral staff who have made hundreds of daily phone calls, over the months, to check that all families are ok; our Lunchtime Supervisors who are now experts at playing socially distanced playground games; Mr. Readman who has delivered many a parcel and school report out and about, and our Governing Body who have the best interests of our children at the heart of everything that they do. I must say a very special thank you to my colleague, and your Deputy Head, Mrs. Slattery, who has worked incessantly, the two of us working together often late into the night, to try and fit all of the Government's plans together as best as we possibly can to keep your children and our staff safe. Next time you see us, we may well have rather more grey hair than we did back in March!

I don't think that any one of us would have ever believed that we would experience what we have actually experienced recently. Thank you all, for the important part that you have all played.

Our staff have thoroughly enjoyed their time with our special 'Bubbles' of children in school during Lockdown and have been so impressed by the children's resilience, taking everything in their stride. For those children and their families who we have seen on our travels around Shildon, who have collected lunches, who have entered our special competitions and who have been battling away learning at home, doing the best that they can, we look forward to catching up very soon in the new term.

At this point, all in all, we are a great team together. What will make our team fully complete, is seeing everyone back in September, ready to tackle the year ahead!

Let's hope the sun shines for us all in August. Wishing you a wonderful Summer and I look forward to seeing you all in the new term.

Mrs. Boulton

Head Teacher

