

ABBAY ACADEMIES TRUST
Executive Headteacher: Mrs S J Moore

22nd June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Time is racing by and we are rapidly approaching the end of another challenging, though hugely successful Covid-19 school year.

As ever, I am in awe of our awesome children and all their achievements both in school and during school closure. I am also so proud of our fantastic staff team who have continued to provide exceptional, creative and exciting learning opportunities both in the classroom and remotely. Our websites are a wonderful reminder of our whole school community going 'above and beyond expectation', even in unprecedented times. Our ongoing assessments are showing that the quality of our learning, teaching and curriculum and effective 'catch up' provision continues to make a difference, and our children are on track to achieve their aspirational targets. This is of course also due to the children's attitude to learning, their perseverance and hard work, as well as your fabulous support at home. Mental health and wellbeing is very much at the fore of all we have done, and continue to do, to support our children and families. Staff and children continue to amaze with their resilience, adaptability, positivity and creativity.

It has been sad not to be able to invite parents and carers into school during Coronavirus times. I'm sure though, that you have enjoyed seeing wonderful events such as our recent sports days on the school websites and virtual class assemblies via the links we have shared with you. We are very proud that this academic year we have only had one bubble closure at each school. This is a fantastic achievement and a true 'geese' effort from our staff, children, parents/carers and the wider community involved in the life of our schools. I am sure you will appreciate that throughout Covid-19 times, schools have taken a different approach. We are absolutely committed to making sure we don't fall at the last hurdle right at the end of a brilliant year! Our 'live' Covid-19 risk assessment continues to be regularly updated and works effectively. So few bubble closures has meant less disruption for our children's education and for parents and carers.

Although social distancing and other safety restrictions haven't been lifted completely by the Government this term as expected, we would very much like to ensure our Year 6 children, who have reached the end of their amazing learning journey in primary school, are recognised and celebrated. They are all busily enjoying rehearsing their Year 6 productions which will be virtual. I am so excited about these, as I have seen the children at a distance throwing themselves into their performances. I know you will love them!! Links to these will be shared with you on Thursday 15th July.

Usually we also have a tear jerking Leaver's Service during the last couple of days of the school year. We are keen to enable this to happen and for parents and carers to safely join us. Obviously, we will have to have the service outside for social distancing and audience bubbles of 30, following DfE and Government directives. If the weather is extremely poor it may be that parents/carers cannot attend and we would hold the service inside the school hall with the children and staff. I'm sure that the sun will shine on us all though and more details will be sent out at the start of next week to each individual school.

We have also made the decision not to give attendance awards at the end of this year due to Covid-19. All our children have worked hard to be in school and we don't want to penalise them if they haven't been able to attend due to Coronavirus. We are instead, going to have a celebration of attendance and give all the children a treat in school.

As we still cannot mix class bubbles, we will once again be sharing messages from teachers to their new classes virtually. This will be done on July 12th when the children will be told who their new teacher will be in September. On this day, the children will also bring home their school reports and you will receive a 'classes' letter. The online message will be available for parents and carers to view on the school websites.

Sometimes teachers give their children a small treat at the end of the school year. Now Covid-19 restrictions have relaxed a little, we have decided that this is possible, providing that the items are quarantined beforehand.

Unfortunately, we are hearing of more cases locally of Covid-19. As ever, the Covid phone is on out of hours should you need to call me if YOUR CHILD has a positive test result - **07591 528082**. Don't forget to call me again if I do not answer the first time.

Finally, I hope this letter reassures you that we continue to be extremely mindful of keeping our children, staff and families safe during these Coronavirus times, but we will absolutely celebrate our children's wonderful achievements during the last few weeks of this academic year. As a team of geese we all fly high together; adapting and supporting each other during these Coronavirus times. We finish our school year thinking about the Christian Value of 'Thankfulness'. There isn't a better value to finish the school year with. We are all thankful that life is slowly returning to 'normal'. We are thankful for wonderful governors/trustees, staff team, families and most of all such special children – who are what makes the exciting and more challenging times all worth it.

I will be writing to you again before the end of term to give you as much information as possible about arrangements in September. We have plans in place but are waiting for announcements and directives from Mr Johnson and the Government regarding the new academic year in schools. I would like to thank you for your continuing support because we are definitely in this together as a team and family.



Yours sincerely

Mrs S J Moore
Executive Headteacher