

Wednesday 10th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we draw to the end of another half term like no other, I would like to thank you for the amazing and varied roles you have all played within our school community. We know it has been incredibly difficult at times and our resilience is certainly being tested. However, together we are getting through this time and there is still much that we have to be thankful for.



## **Returning to School**



We are still waiting for more information from the government and the DFE about how the children will return to school from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. As soon as we have more information about the arrangements, we will let you know. Please be assured that we are keen to welcome all the children back into school when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we encourage you to continue with the current routine and please do let us know if there is anything we can help with.

I know some of you will have concerns about how the children will be supported when they do all return to school. Although there is no magic solution to this unique situation, we will do our best to meet the children's varying needs. As well as our quality first approach to teaching and learning, we will adopt additional approaches to identifying and addressing children's needs and any gaps in learning. We will work together with you to enable needs led interventions and support as necessary. Our curriculum and catch up funding planning and provision will also be reviewed in light of children's identified needs and additional funding made available to us from the DFE. Please see our website for details of our current catch up funding plan, which has been successful in supporting children since they returned to school last September. <a href="https://www.beaverroad.org.uk/page/catch-up-funding/94457">https://www.beaverroad.org.uk/page/catch-up-funding/94457</a>

## Staffing update

Many of you will know Dianne Kelly, who has been a brilliant Teaching Assistant within our early years for over 20 years. Prior to being employed at Beaver Road, Dianne was also a parent and a volunteer at our school. Dianne has made the decision to begin her retirement this half term – whilst we are delighted for her, she will be really missed. We wish her all the very best for the future and thank her for all her fabulous contributions and commitment to our school community over many years.











Ofsted Outstanding We are delighted to welcome Denise Kenny to our team this term as our School Business Manager. This is a new role within our admin support team. Denise is very experienced and has been in a similar role in a high school for many years before joining us. I am sure you will also make Denise very welcome when you see her around school.

Please remember to book your parents evening appointments School Spider this week for either the 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> of February via school spider. Appointments will be either on zoom or via telephone if you prefer. Once your appointment is booked, you will be sent your individual zoom login details during the week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> February. If you would prefer a telephone appointment, please let your teacher know. Appointments will be strictly 10 minutes, so please make sure you attend on time and understand that your teacher cannot give you extra time or swap appointment times once they have been set up.



## Half term activities

Over half term we are encouraging you and your children to take a break from screens if you can. Although Seesaw and Tapestry will not be active over this half term, please see attached to this

letter a document with activity ideas that can support your child's well-being and provide opportunities to 'shine' whilst in lockdown at home over half term. There is also a lovely idea for a local walk from Mrs Jeacock and Mrs Burrows, which I'm sure will help to give some purpose to the walks we know many of you are making at the moment.

Please also check out Chef Martin's Cookery Corner on our website for some great recipe ideas to enjoy cooking with your children this half term. https://www.beaverroad.org.uk/page/chef-martins-cookery-corner/96239

I hope you all manage to enjoy some quality family time together over this half term. We return to school and our remote education provision on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February and look forward to hearing about the activities children have enjoyed.

Take care and keep safe,

Effandy

Mrs Liz Hardy **Executive Headteacher**