



SHADE
Primary School



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19th June 2020

Hello everyone,

I hope that this letter finds you all well.

We are looking forward to welcoming back our year 6 class on Monday; school will suddenly become noisier! As I wrote last week, this means whilst current government guidelines stay the same regarding distancing in school, we are unable to offer any more year groups the opportunity to return. If there are any changes to the guidance we will put plans in place for further returns.

You will no doubt have seen the announcement today in the press re the government's plans for some form of catch up for certain groups of children. We have yet to see any guidance or detail for this but I just wanted to share a few of our thoughts with you regarding the feeling of children being hugely behind.

Of course we would rather have had our children in school and continued our teaching and learning journey with them but obviously this has been impossible in these exceptional times. In reality, by the time we get to summer, children will have missed 69 days of school; 35% of this school year. In terms of their whole primary school life they have missed 4%.

For our Y6, who will have missed 49 days, this can clearly never be got back but the class had completed the bulk of their academic work for the year and in fact had just completed their mock SATS before we closed, the outcomes of which we will share with them and their parents before they leave. They did very well 😊

For the rest of our children we will ensure that we, the professionals who know them the best, will put in whatever is needed to make up for that 4% of lost time, particularly Y5 who will have a shorter time in which to make it up.

So in conclusion, I don't want you to worry. It's easy to get caught up in the headlines and be very concerned that your child will be 'behind' but please be reassured that we will continue to do our very best for your children and ensure that when they do leave Shade, they leave as happy children who have fulfilled their potential.

Do not hesitate to get in touch with me by email if you need any help and I will try my best to assist,

head@shade.calderdale.sch.uk

Sending you my very best wishes,

Helen Clarkson