

July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers



Today is the last day of term. As I write, I am reflecting on the year...

None of us predicted how this academic year was going to unfold. It has, of course, been an extraordinarily challenging time since March, working to support all of our CwR children and families, in the best ways we possibly could.

I will remember this year forever, for the challenges overcome, for the fears and worries faced, for the team pulling together, for the support of the school community, for the children's resilience at learning in different ways, for the creative energy seen in children and staff working under such pressure. When it is tough, we see the best of people. And we have.

What I will take from it also is a huge amount of learning and, particularly, just how awesome the CwR school community is. I already knew this, but the depth of how amazing everyone is has been well and truly accentuated. My overriding memory when I look back, will be the enormous amount of kindness shared between everyone in our school community - children, parents, staff and governors.

A thank you to our children

The children of Clifton with Rawcliffe Primary School deserve a really big thank you for coping so incredibly well throughout a period of time that none of us have encountered before. Even if they were able to attend school, from March or from June, they returned to a school that looked and felt very different to the one they left on 20th March. We have seen the most fabulous work and creative activity that children have been doing at home and heard wonderful stories about what they have been up to in the garden or in the kitchen. The children who have come back to school have been so positive, smiley, kind and determined to learn. Thank you to all of you, at home and in school; you have all shone like the stars that you are.

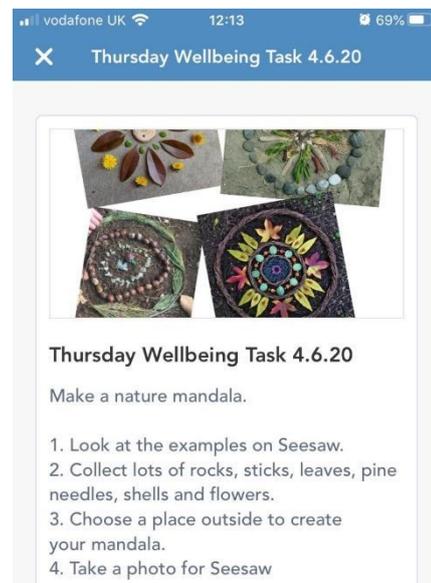


A thank you to our staff

Like everyone, our staff have had to cope with wide ranging personal circumstances, whilst also working to support CWR School's COVID-19 response. I have been astounded by their selflessness and dedication as repeatedly, they have pushed their own worries to one side in order to be there to support the children and families. This has been by providing work to send home, making up food parcels, delivering meal vouchers and packs of work, contacting families, leading bubbles and implementing numerous protective safety measures and routines. I have appreciated so much all the extra hard work that our teaching assistants, teachers and admin staff have given so we could run as many bubbles as possible. Teachers have sacrificed time with their own children and families in order to ensure everything was prepared and safe for others'.



Then there are those who have worked relentlessly since March including throughout the Easter holiday, half term holiday and bank holidays, without complaint, to enable key workers to carry out their vital roles. Thank you. You are incredible, kind people.



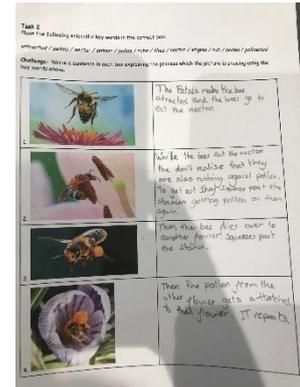
A thank you to our governors and to the Trust

Our governors and colleagues at PMAT deserve a special thank you too, for being so supportive throughout partial closure, wider opening and planning for September. Governors have a key strategic role in the leadership of the school and all have worked diligently on behalf of the children, to ensure all plans and risk assessments have been appropriate, thorough and fit for purpose. They and the team at PMAT have, quite rightly, provided challenge and asked questions to ensure the safety of everyone in school and to ensure families at home were also being supported.

I have never felt alone during this unprecedented time of challenge. I have greatly valued the support and challenge from colleague Heads and strategic leaders at the Trust. Thank you.

A thank you to our parents and carers

I am not writing this thank you last because it is least, quite the contrary. The thank you that I extend to you is the most important. We fully appreciate just how challenging these months have been for our parents, in a wide variety of different ways, including those who have worked with COVID-19 patients or in jobs critical to the COVID-19 response, those who have experienced life changing job loss, those who have suffered bereavement, those who have suffered with illness and those who have juggled working at home with home learning and supporting children through a period of lockdown.



Again, it is through the kindness of our community that everyone has been able to cope as best they can. It is also your kindness, understanding, patience and support that have enabled every success that we have achieved for your children over the last five months. You have, quite simply, been amazing.

Whether your child has been able to attend school or not, and whatever your circumstances have been, you have engaged with us, shared opinions, asked questions and offered so much support. As a school, we are not perfect and we are always striving to improve; this is an important part of our school ethos. In March, we were thrown into a set of unprecedented, highly challenging circumstances and, of course, we won't have got everything right. However, the support and kindness of our parent community enabled us to always achieve our best endeavours for the benefit of our children.



Going forward, I know that we will continue to work closely together and take our school from strength to strength. Thank you.

Looking Forward

This school is special and I feel so privileged to have a key role in leading it. Pre-March we had made excellent progress with our school improvement plans especially working hard to further develop our broad and creative curriculum, before work related to this mostly had to pause, through necessity, to enable the best possible COVID-19 school response. However, we have absolutely retained our enthusiasm and excitement for how the future of CwR can be shaped and developed for our fabulous children.

Caring for Others

We can show people we care in lots of different ways. Record all the times you show somebody you care over the next week by filling in the table below.

Day	What I Did	Who I Did It For	How I Made the Other Person Feel	How It Made Me Feel
Saturday	Washed dishes	Mum	Happy	Proud
Sunday	Helped dad carry shopping bags & washed and cleaned it.	Dad	relieved	Kind
Monday	Made a capos tea and a biscuit	Family	thankful	Helpful
Tuesday	Cleaned my bike after I rode bike	Myself	delighted	Happy
Wednesday	Helped with plants and body garden	Family	gratified	glad
Thursday	Helped mums read with me tonight	Jobs	pleased	Proud
Friday	Helped mum make pizza and set the table	MUM	glad	Happy because more time to play.

What have you noticed?
that you have more time to play when you're done. Many hands make light work

This resource is adapted from the 'Be Learning, Be Caring and Caring' themes outlined in the PSHE Association's *Responsible Citizens* at Schools.

PSHE and Citizenship / Year 5 / Resources / TEOS

We will continue to work hard to provide them with the best possible experiences and education that supports them to become resilient individuals who can cope positively with life and ultimately achieve a work role that they would enjoy.

In September, we will share with you our updated school improvement plans, which will enable a continuation of the work already started in the early part of this year, whilst bringing in additional strategies and new priorities. We will of course continue to keep everyone as safe as possible from potential transmission of coronavirus. Our planned routines and procedures have worked well, have been under constant review and the same will be true in September. We are very grateful for the Trust and the support we have received as a school from the central team at Pathfinder.

We will also be working on a priority to continue to develop home learning provision, so that we are ready if partial school closure were to happen again. We will continue to support children emotionally and make their wellbeing a key priority as we focus on their academic progress when we are all back in school.

I have to confess to feeling a little emotional today. I have been speaking to many parents this morning and you have not helped! Your kindness and thoughtfulness, seen in the piles of gifts in the school entrance, heard in your spoken messages of appreciation to the school, has been overwhelming today. We work together; we are a team together and we must not lose what we have gained.



So now we say goodbye to our Y6 children and to those in school bubbles and to everyone at home. You have all been truly awesome. Thank you for your kindness, positivity and resilience during the past several months.

The staff are really looking forward to seeing all of our children and parents again in September.

I do hope that you are able to enjoy the summer holiday. Please stay safe and stay well.

Best wishes to you all

Andy Herbert
 Headteacher