

12th June 2020

From Mrs Eley...

It's been a strange two weeks in school since half term. As you know we expanded the number of children that we were open to, in line with the government guidance. Over the past two weeks, in addition to the children of key workers, we have welcomed back some of our Wagtails, Robins and Kingfishers and it's been lovely to see them in school and great for me to finally meet some of them. Even though we've had more children in school it still seems very quiet. Each group sticks to their own base classroom and sinks/toilets. They use their own doors to get to our outside space and have staggered arrival and collection times. The staff cannot mix with each other so the staffroom is deserted as are the corridors. Thank you to all the parents of these children who have worked with us to make dropping off and picking up as safe as possible by sticking to your allotted time slots and being good role models of social distancing for the children. It has been brilliant for me to finally meet more of you too. I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of you who have personally welcomed me into the school, shown their understanding of our evolving timetable that was necessary to ensure we were completely happy with our routines and procedures, sending emails of thanks and support and sometimes just asking me if I am okay – it really means a lot. I have an amazing team around me who have also had to show even more flexibility, resilience and team spirit than normal and are all definitely rising to the challenge. Please be assured that all of your positivity is shared with the staff.

I would like to congratulate Y6 on their amazing tennis skills – they won the virtual tennis competition last week. We have also made a short video this week which has been sent to the Birmingham Cathedral office so that they can create a virtual leavers' service for them to watch together and we are working on plans for the school leavers' service so watch this space... We have had a message that the hoodies are on the way so, fingers crossed, we will be able to give those out soon.

To all our children still learning at home, we've not forgotten about you! I have asked your teachers to phone all of you over the past two weeks just say hello and see how you are and they all said they really enjoyed it and it made them realise just how much they are missing you. I know it's been a long time now and many of you are keen to come back. I also know lots of you have questions about when this will be. The government has said this week that it might not be until September. I understand this seems ages away but I can reassure you that we will do everything we can to make sure you feel safe and happy when it's time to return. You are just as important to us as the children that are back in school and we can't wait to see you.

I've got some riddles for you this week, see if you can work out the answers and then maybe try and write one of your own to try on your family.

What has hands but doesn't clap?

What is full of holes but still holds water?

As always, if there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Take care and stay safe.