

18th December 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Wow! We made it to the Christmas holidays! What a very strange term we have had. Please can I send huge thanks to you all for the support you have given us since September. We are incredibly humbled by the fact that you have put your faith in the systems we have in school to keep your children safe and happy. Our attendance has been above national, and even Cumbrian, attendance throughout the term — something we are really proud of.

We really have had a fantastic week again this week. The children looked fabulous in their Christmas jumpers for Christmas dinner and again today for the Santa dash and our lovely Christmas sing-along which we had this afternoon. Yesterday, there were some incredibly smart young men and some very sparkly young ladies dressed in their finery for class parties. And everybody has been very busy with Christmas activities, Christmas crafts and other festive frivolities.

Given the restrictions and the changes in school, the children have shown remarkable resilience and have thoroughly enjoyed school. Their always-beaming faces and smiley greetings have got me through some extremely challenging days this term.

Also, I would like to express my sincere and heart-felt gratitude to the amazing staff team here who have worked so hard every day since we came back to ensure that the children are able to have a stable, caring, supportive environment in which to learn. The staff have been relentless in their determination to make the very best of a very difficult situation and have been a source of real strength for me, personally.

Please remember that there are many organisations available to support over the Christmas holidays. We have attached details of many of these to our newsletter overleaf and on the separate page. Please do look for support if you are struggling. We know that there are many families who find things difficult over the Christmas holiday period but this year, I'm sure, may be even more challenging.

What lies ahead for the beginning of 2021 is still uncertain but I am sure that, working together, we will overcome all obstacles to make the future bright and fun-filled for our children.

Please stay safe. Follow the guidance that is in place so that we may return together, safe and well on Tuesday 4th January.

Happy Christmas to you all, and my very best wishes.

Mrs Lavery

