

**Head Teacher:**

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St. Andrew's C.P. School



Kirk Ella

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**Dear Parents/Carers,**

We have made it through to the end of a very busy term and I am sure you are as tired as we all are.

I would like to thank all that have helped throughout this time.

I would like to pay tribute to all our pupils. They have been amazing throughout this difficult period, their lives and education having been turned inside out and upside down, but they came back in September with such enthusiasm and determination. Their work ethic has been fantastic and their support and understanding for everyone around them and the changes in systems we are operating is beyond their years. They just got on with it. As a staff we are all proud of you.

I would like to thank the Staff, no school could have asked for anything more from them. They are true public servants and have ensured that the children have thrived in a Covid Secure environment. . They have been moved from pillar to post since all this has started. They have worked through holidays, changed hours, worked longer hours, worked two roles at home and in school at the same time, put themselves in front of 25+ children from differing households while worrying about their own loved ones. They have had illness themselves and coped with this while having the best interests of your children key in their mind. I have been teaching for 24 years and have never met a more dedicated staff. This includes teaching assistants, nursery nurses, lunchtime supervisors, cooks, teachers, caretakers, cleaners and admin. We are fortunate to have them. Please be assured that we all care a great deal about the work we do and the children we have.

Parents/Carers, friends in our wider community, you need to recognise what you have achieved. You balanced home-school learning, you've put up with staggered times, walking around in circles and a school which you normally have instant access to, greeting you at arms-length and through glass and a mask. All the Covid Secure arrangements in school are designed to stop the virus spreading, once it wafted through the door but the only people who could stop it actually walking through the door were you. Thank you for all those who have worked hard to protect yourself and others. To read emails to take advice to ensure the children and staff are protected. To not do the things you wanted to do and think of others as well as yourselves.

This obviously continues in January. I know with renewed strength from the holiday we can knuckle down, keep the regulations and look forward to a better 2021 we hope.

Thank you for the positive messages after the videos we shared this week. It was great to have an opportunity to come together as a school in this way.

While we move to Friday please continue to be vigilant.

Please remember, if your child has symptoms or anyone in your family, please keep them off to protect the rest of your child's class.

As mentioned in a previous email, I will be manning the phone next week if you need to report anything to us regarding a positive test. The number is 07399355450 out of school hours otherwise contact the school via phone or email.



Keep safe and have a great Christmas,

Mr Church