

## Barley Lane School

*Friendship, Optimism, Hardwork*

11<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear All,

Firstly, a heartfelt thanks to the team here for allowing me time to spend with my Dad in recent weeks and to then help organize and attend his funeral.

School ran wholly successfully and smoothly under Dave Jones' leadership and I know he would be the first to acknowledge and celebrate the team here are both self-motivating and self-managing and we are lucky to have so many very good people.

This is evidenced most powerfully by the hugely positive and supportive feedback from parents and carers about the teachers and support staff who work with their child and it is that network of child, family and teacher/support worker that is the most important of all and underpins any good work.

These good relationships between you all are the foundation of everything and so it has proved as the children and young people have all returned to school in good spirits and the prevailing atmosphere in school is calm and good natured and so learning can happen.

Thanks from me for valuing and respecting and supporting my staff because your kindness and fairness spread out in all sorts of directions and with all sorts of unplanned and good consequences. I have no doubt at all the hard-work and ever presence and high morale of people here in such tough times is because they know the families they work for and with care about and value and respect them and if feedback was from us about the families we work with and for it would be you are doing a great job and thank you.

Secondly, some housekeeping around testing at home. I know the team have been exploring this with you and our understanding is we can soon distribute test kits to you and you can then order more on-line or collect from local sites. Judith and Dan in the office can help you with any questions alongside your child's tutor and we have all been self-testing at home for some time now and it is very doable folks if you are worried.

*Michael*

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