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Headteacher Mr S Belbin

Dear parents,

At the end of our third week back, I thought I would take this opportunity to give you some feedback about how things have been going at school. From our point of view, we would say the new arrangements for coming in and out of school have worked well. Attendance in school since the beginning of term has been between 96.5% and 97.2%; it has never been as high. Our children have responded magnificently to all the changes. They have got used to having their temperatures taken every morning, to washing and sanitizing hands throughout the day, to separate lunchtimes and playtimes. The vast majority have also coped really well with coming back to school and learning again. They are now used to being in their class groups which are, in effect, their bubbles. Our walking bus has started, and this is now running every morning. If you would like your child to be part of the walking bus then please contact the school office.

The children have done really well, but really this has been a real team effort between school and home. I would also like to say a huge thank you to you, our parents, grandparents and carers, for being so understanding and supportive. You have obviously helped the children get ready for school, and helped them get used to the new start of school arrangements. You have trusted us to do the best we can. Thank you.

As you would imagine, there have been some minor issues, and I am sure that more may crop up. We had larger than expected queues at gates at KS1, which spilt down to the main A6. When these have cropped up, we have tried to change arrangements to help, such as opening up the gates earlier and using the church grounds. I would also say that social distancing is proving very, very hard to enforce within classes and bubbles. Children naturally and rightly want to play together. Please do let us know if you are worried or concerned about school, and we will try and help where we can.

Many of you have asked how long this will continue. How long will it be before we can go on school trips, have visitors in, all go out to play together? As I am writing this, all the newspapers and radio bulletins are talking about new restrictions being placed on Lancashire for a couple of weeks. At school, we have yet to be told of any of this, although I am sure this will come soon. You will appreciate this is a very fluid situation, and understandably guidance often comes out later than the headlines. All I do know is that schools across Lancashire will remain open as "education and the economy is being protected", so we look forward to seeing you and our children next week, as usual.

All I can promise is that we will keep you informed as and when we know anything.

I wish you, your families and loved ones, the very best.

S Belbin

