



## Thornton Primary School

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17<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Re. Thank you for your continued support as valued members of our Thornton Family**

As we come to the end of a year of uncertainty and change, the Governors and I would like to say a sincere 'thank you' to all those of you who have supported the school throughout.

We know that many of you have faced and continue to face personal difficulty and tragedy. We know no one is left untouched by the pandemic. We really valued the work you have done, in partnership with the school, to support your child(ren) to engage in their learning during the first lockdown, when schools were closed. This term has been no less challenging, and, although school has always remained open, many children and members of staff have been required to isolate for periods of time.

When the school leaders are forced to make decisions to ask children and staff to isolate, it is often with very little notice and we very much appreciate your support and understanding in trying to keep everyone safe during these times by following the government guidance. We also recognise all the challenges that you face in terms of supporting your child(ren)'s remote learning: it is not easy but all your efforts are invaluable for ensuring learning can continue.

It is important to recognise the incredible efforts made by all members of the staff team to ensure your child's learning was maintained when school was closed, whilst also continuing to be mindful of their own well-being as well as that of their loved ones. This term, teachers have needed to adjust their classroom routines to comply with social distancing requirements and blend on-site teaching with remote learning to try to ensure no child falls behind whilst isolating. All members of the staff team have been required to work differently and for most this has resulted in an increased workload. All have done this with the true spirit of the Thornton Family's 'can-do' attitude, together with skill and enthusiasm.

The term 'staff team' is used intentionally as everyone has a part to play in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the children. Everyone does this with determination and total commitment: administration staff and leaders, cleaners and site team, catering and support staff, teachers and learning support staff. All are equally valued and we are sure you will want to join us in congratulating the whole team for what has been achieved for the children at Thornton Primary School during this challenging period and for their continued dedication to your child(ren).



We hope that you can enjoy the festive season, albeit likely in rather different circumstances to usual, and that you are able to take some time to relax and have some fun with loved ones in a safe and responsible way.

We look forward to welcoming all the children back to school in the New Year, with their first day back being Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (usual staggered start times still apply).

With very best wishes,

A stylized, circular handwritten signature in black ink.

Mr. Amjid Ali  
Chair of Governors

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy Grace".

Mrs Cathy Grace  
Acting Headteacher