



Montalbo Nursery and Primary School

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21st March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I thank you all for the hard work and support you have given your child/children and the school during the latest challenge in the COVID-19 pandemic, when lockdown 3 commenced on 5th January this term. I was very relieved that Monday had been a Professional Development day for our staff, and all our children had remained at home that day. I know that during the first working week of January the staff at Montalbo had to re-plan all lessons, so they could 'go live' with Teams from Wednesday 6th January. The whole school community pulled together and made a huge team effort to ensure the highest standard of remote education possible for your children. I believe the staff and yourselves have surpassed all expectations, whilst supporting all the children who were also in school. I am very much aware of how difficult juggling remote education, helping children access learning, and attempting to carry out your own job remotely, whilst continuing to ensure as 'normal' a day as possible for your family, after completing 4 months working from home with my 3 children.

May I also thank you for following the systems that have been set up to ensure all children and adults remain as safe as possible when dropping off and collecting your children at the start and end of the school day. A reminder to park safely and conscientiously, wear masks whilst on site and follow the one-way system (even when there is a shorter alternative) to help keep us all safe.

Some of you may be aware that the school is endeavouring to achieve the 'Wellbeing Award for Schools'. This promotes emotional wellbeing and support by improving mental health provision for all pupils and staff. You or your child may have been asked to complete questionnaires or become part of the working group of 'Wellbeing Champions' who are working with Mrs Bartoli to ensure Wellbeing is a priority in school. Watch this space for further progress.

I was lucky enough to be on site one cold and snowy Friday evening, when the bike shed was being delivered. A team effort managed to position the shed temporarily in the playground, whilst a permanent site is prepared. I would love to see this facility being used, filling it up with bikes, scooters and any other appropriate mode of transport - particularly in the warmer coming months. A huge thank you to Rachel Tweddle (from the Hub), Chris Stamp and Craig Dunnill for delivering this facility.

I conclude by once again thanking all staff, parents, carers and children for the exceptional way they and you have once again responded to these difficult times.

Sarah

Sarah O'Doherty (Chair of Governors)
On behalf of all Governors of Montalbo Nursery & Primary School