



Bryn Offa Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr P Thompson

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Dear Parents and Guardians

It feels such a long time ago since we had all the children with us, it is difficult to believe it has only been a half term. I talk about the children a lot in my letters, but for this one I'd like to focus on the parents.

During this half term we have had about 38% of the children in school. It would perhaps be easy to feel that the parents of these children have had it easier than those who are at home, but this would ignore many factors.

The parents whose children are in school are often in challenging jobs where it is not possible to work from home. They are often the parents who are having to face to face contact with members of the public, so putting themselves at risk of being infected. They are sending their children into school, where they can be infected and bring this infection home. I don't think anyone could think that they are having it easier with the risks they face.

With 38% of the children in school, that obviously means that 62% have been accessing the remote education from home. It would be equally easy to feel these parents have had it easier because they and their children are safe at home, but again this would ignore many factors.

Many parents are having to work from home and at the same time support their children's remote education. Doing just one of these things would surely be enough, but to do the two things together is an amazing achievement. The feedback I have had from teachers about the level of engagement and support from parents has been hugely positive. Their energy and enthusiasm that has lasted this long is simply staggering, and I thank you for it.

There may be someone somewhere who is having an easy time of things at the moment, but I've not met them yet. I have to believe that we are past the worst of it and things will get better and better from here.

We look forward to the school announcement on the 22nd February, which should give everyone a little more certainty for the future. We look forward to the time when the only bubbles in school are the ones the younger children are blowing in the playground. And we look forward so much to just returning to the simple pleasures in life, such as a meal out or just a hug. Don't worry, we will get there together.

Mr Thompson