



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome back so many of our Year 2s this week - school is starting to feel more normal already. I have really enjoyed talking to all the children about the things they have been learning while at home - all credit to the adults for supporting and encouraging them to engage with the wide range of activities that have been going on.

Since the virus took over our lives, schools in general have gone above and beyond in supporting the government in fighting it. Contrary to the media, schools are not now re-opening as we never closed - we stayed open throughout including the whole of Easter and half term for our key worker and vulnerable children. Vallis School will close to all children for the summer holidays on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July. There are a range of holiday clubs that run in the area and we will give you details of these over the next few weeks. One holiday club that is running will be at Selwood Academy and you can book places by visiting the website [www.igsportscoaching.co.uk](http://www.igsportscoaching.co.uk).

We have had a few questions regarding uniform in September. We would like children to wear normal school uniform please when they come back to school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Although we are not totally sure what the provision will look like in September yet, when the children are in school the day will be structured as a normal school day. Up to now, the focus has been more on a care provision but this will change in September back to a learning focus. If we are to catch up on the lost learning, we need to make the days as normal as possible and the uniform is part of this. If you need to purchase new uniform, the school office will be open on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of September which are both TD days.

I am sure the children are all keen to know their new classes for next year - we hope to let you know week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> June.

You may be aware that Somerset Council had a visit from OFSTED earlier this year regarding special needs provision across the county. Somerset Parent Carer Forum (SPCF) is now asking parents and carers of children and young people aged 0-25 years with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), who live in Somerset or use Somerset services to take a survey. The survey is to help improve things for families, following the recent Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) joint inspection of Somerset. The survey will help SPCF collect the views of parent carers and will be used to inform practice in Somerset with the view to improving things for all families and recognise services families' value. More information and the survey can be found at: <https://choices.somerset.gov.uk/025/send-inspection-update-please-take-the-survey/>

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes.

Nick Firkins  
Headteacher