

12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents,

Today we break up for the half term break and I hope you can use next week to rejuvenate yourselves!

### **The Friends**

I attended a really productive meeting with The Friends' committee on Wednesday evening. An extraordinary **£16,425** has been raised since the new committee started last October which is incredible given we have not had any "normal" events! A huge thank you to all the parents who have spent time organising events or donating money. There are a whole host of exciting events planned for the rest of this academic year – here are a few of them:

**"Last One Standing"** – The first round of this exciting, football-themed, fun, fundraiser begins this weekend. The deadline for joining was yesterday and I hope all the families enjoy taking part. I've backed Manchester United this week, so hope I'm still standing next weekend!

**Fitness fundraiser!** Thanks very much to Adam and Jagna's mum Beata, for donating an hour of her fitness expertise - 7pm on 17<sup>th</sup> February. Please join her for a lockdown exercise class! Details were sent earlier this week and can be found on the website.

**World Book Day Competition** – thanks to Leo's mum Anna for organising this – all the details were emailed earlier today – the deadline for entries is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Happy bag collection!** A provisional date has been set for Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March. If school is fully open by then, this will go ahead so you could start clearing out your wardrobes over the half term.

**Poker Night** – after the success of the last tournament, another is planned for May.

**School Building Fund** You will know that every time we have large building works, we have to pay 10% of the bill! We have been fortunate to get grants to improve our school building (the latest project is the roof which is currently being replaced at a cost of £200,000). We have an outstanding debt of £24,201.32 which has to be paid in full by December 2022. Your contributions to the building fund are what pays this debt. Every year we ask each family to make a voluntary contribution of £45. This academic year, we have received £6,442.84 out of a possible £12,825. If you haven't paid your contribution for this year and would like to, you can do so via ParentPay. You can pay in full or small instalments each month. Many thanks in advance for your generosity.

Have a lovely half term holiday and let us pray for good news from Boris Johnson on 22<sup>nd</sup> February! We are wondering if we will follow Scotland and just have infants back from 8<sup>th</sup> March with other year groups following after. I have not been given any forewarning about a final decision so will wait with you all on 22<sup>nd</sup> to find out.

After such a lot of work over this half term I am sure you are looking forward to putting those screens away and doing something completely different. The temperatures will be going up although it looks like a fairly wet week. Whatever you get up to, I hope you can enjoy a bit of rest and relaxation – I know I certainly will be!

Attached to this email are some links to support mental health and well-being for children as well as adults, so please do have a look.

Kind regards,

Kate Baptiste  
Headteacher