

17th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I hope you are all healthy and well as we draw the academic year 2019-2020 to an end today.

I will attempt to refrain from using many of the now clichéd phrases to describe the events of the last five months. During which time, since Monday 23rd March, we as a school community (including our PTCA) have all endeavoured to:

- Safeguard the physical and mental well-being of our whole school community
- Support the physical and mental well-being of all in our community
- Be accessible to the children of key/critical workers & vulnerable pupils
- Provide remote educational resources to support families home educate their children
- Be accessible to the children in priority year groups (YN, YR, Y1 & Y6) as of 1.6.20
- Find answers to questions never asked of school leaders before!

That said, I would like to express the heartfelt gratitude of our SLT for your words of encouragement and support throughout this summer term and the last two weeks of the spring term.

As we now draw the year to a close we have sent you a separate procedural letter informing you of the logistical details of how we plan to re-open the school to all of our pupils in September. Please read the letter very carefully and do support us with our requests in regard to starting times and locations of entrance/exit.

We must now take a moment to reflect on what has been by no stretch of the imagination an extraordinary year. It is said that there is virtue to be found in adversity, and I think I can go as far as to say that many, if not all, of our staff and pupils here at Daubeney have proven themselves to be very virtuous! The resilience, determination, perseverance, diligence, adaptability, empathy, ingenuity and generosity demonstrated by the Daubeney family is an honour to be associated with during this historic moment in time. I am sure you would agree that our series of virtual assemblies would attest to the presence of the above virtues, and much more!

One such virtuous example would be the visual and vocal support for the Black Lives Matter (BLM) campaign from our pupils, demonstrating wonderfully well their empathy.

Another example of the Daubeney virtues would be the adaptability and determination to host a socially distanced graduation for our Year 6's

(<https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/year6/graduation-goodbye-class-2020>) with a desire to allow our pupils their rites of passage to secondary school, as we would not have such a truly meaningful window of opportunity again.

In a similar vein we have plans to ensure that when we return in September we will provide an opportunity for our pupils to spend some time with, and bid farewell to their former teacher in a more 'traditional' manner.

As I am sure you can all appreciate after missing 14 weeks of traditional formal education there will be much work to be done in what we can only anticipate to be an unpredictable and challenging year ahead. But as attested to above, we have proven that by working together we can overcome

we are growing at

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the most novel and difficult of challenges. We will provide you with more detailed information regarding our 'Recovery Curriculum' to address those missed weeks upon our return in September.

For now, let us take stock of how much your child(ren) have achieved and overcome throughout the entire year since September 2019 in spite of the circumstances, take pleasure in those achievements; take time also to draw breathe during the summer holidays and prepare ourselves for another opportunity in September to allow our children here at Daubeney to develop their academic knowledge and skills alongside those characteristics/traits mentioned above that are key predictors of future success.

Do have a fantastic and well deserved summer break, please **stay safe** (in both the real and virtual worlds) and we look forward to seeing you all in September for a fantastic 2020-2021 where we can all prove, yet again, that at Daubeney we are the ...best!

Yours sincerely,

Gregory Logan
Head of School
Daubeney Primary