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Dear Rackham Pupils,

Thank you so much for taking the time to answer the questionnaire your teachers sent out to you last week. We really appreciate your opinions and I can tell that you were very honest and thoughtful in your answers. With this letter, I am also sending you a little summary of what children in each Key Stage thought. If you are finding the graphs a little difficult to read, maybe ask an older sibling or adult at home to help you understand them. Some of the questions are a little hard for me to summarise for you properly, but I have passed on every single answer to your teachers so they know what you have said.

The most important thing to all of us at Rackham is that you are safe and happy. We love seeing your faces on the Zoom calls and all the fantastic work that you have been doing that you share on Seesaw. In fact, this week the teachers and I counted up how many of you are using Seesaw at home to share your learning or to view the videos and activities the teachers share with you. I am incredibly pleased to see that nearly 93% (that's the same as 93 children out of 100) are using Seesaw. That's amazing! Well done!

You all know that you all learn very differently to each other and that's what makes teaching you so much fun. You all enjoy different subjects, you find different things challenging and you all have very different homes, families and experiences. That's what makes each of you so unique and so wonderful to be around. But because of this, it makes sending home learning to you very difficult! If we could send you each individualised learning like we do at school, we would. If we could call all of you every single day, we would. Unfortunately, the teachers are incredibly busy creating lots of videos and work for you – as well as looking after their own families – so we cannot make this happen as some of you have suggested.

The surveys have told us that the majority of you are happy with the home learning being sent out and that you enjoy the work set. Nearly half of you prefer topic based learning specially designed for your own class, and nearly half of you preferred whole school themed weeks! Some of you have parents who are still trying to work full time and some of you don't. Some of you want more challenging work and some of you want less work! You can see how hard it is for teachers to try and find a balance and help you to continue to make progress whilst making sure that you are happy and not finding things too difficult. Teachers have had to learn how to help you at home too; this is very different to our usual jobs! We have taken on board all of your comments and will try to weave some of your suggestions into the plans we share with you over the next few weeks.

Before I go, it is important that you know just how proud we are of all of you. I speak to your teachers every single day and all of them share the wonderful work you are doing, the smiling faces they see and the thoughtful messages you leave them. We know just how hard it has been for you over the last few weeks and together with your adults who have helped you so incredibly much, you have achieved more than I could ever have hoped for. Thank you and well done. Please make sure you continue to be kind to yourselves and your families and show your adults just how grateful you are for all their help.

Sending you all my best wishes,

Mrs Ward









