



SEATON VALLEY FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS

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Chair of Governors: Susan Dungworth

Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

12 February 2021

Dear parents and carers

I hope you are well and enjoying the latest snow! I think it is safe to say that this half term really has been like no other any of us have ever experienced. The varying weather conditions, lockdown and the stresses that are brought about by that and the joys and tribulations of home schooling have certainly meant that the last 6 weeks have been interesting!

As you will be aware, I have been immensely thankful to you all for the efforts you have put in, the contact you have had with the schools and the support you have given us and your children as we have gone through a really difficult time. It has been hard but we have survived and we are surviving so I think we should all be proud of what we have done.

I would like to pay special attention to the staff of the federation who have worked very hard to make sure that all of us have done as well as we can in this half term. Teaching and support staff have been amazing and it is only right that I tell everyone just how great they have been.

Our young people are resilient and will get over this, some quicker than others, but with the support of you and the schools they will get through this pandemic.

It would be wonderful to say that after half term everything will return to normal but we know that this is not the case. We will know what the plans are for the return to school and the replacement for exams on the 22nd February. Obviously once the announcements have been made, we will put together our plans and then let you know how things will be managed.

However, certain things still have to go on as normal and parents and carers in years 9 and 11 will have had letters this week about option choices for their children. Can I please ask that you return the information that has been asked of you as quickly as possible.

You may be aware that a previous Headteacher of Astley Mr Norman Wiseman died this week. Some of you may have been taught by him. We send his family our condolences and best wishes at this sad time for them.

Finally, I hope that all of you get a chance to have a break next week. I know there is very little that we can do but we need to have a break away from home schooling! So, whatever you do next week I hope you enjoy it. Once again thank you for your continued support of our schools. This has made a difficult time a lot easier knowing that you are supporting us and your children in the way that you have done.

As always take care and stay safe.

All the best.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

John Barnes
Executive Headteacher

