



# **Bicker Preparatory School and Early Years**

**School Lane, Bicker, Boston, Lincs. PE20 3DW Tel: 01775 821786**

*'Pupils' personal development and behaviour are outstanding' Ofsted 2018*



28<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Dear Parents,

It has been a real pleasure this term to welcome parents and children back into school. For some, the period of absence has been considerable however, we have been delighted that the children have been excited to return. We know that research has shown how important school attendance is, as well as the harmful effects of prolonged absence, but we also know that the situation nationally is far from ideal. We are therefore pleased to have been able to maintain many of the measures introduced during our phased return, in order to keep children and staff safe and we will retain these as long as necessary.

It has been of great benefit to the children to be able to reintroduce a number of our regular activities, such as sport with Discovery Sport, Nature Reserve trips and music with Mrs Biggs. We know we are extremely fortunate in being able to work with experienced professionals who are keen to work within our safety parameters in order to deliver high quality learning to our children.

We have also been extremely fortunate to have the facilities to offer a wide range of outdoor learning experiences, whether in the school garden, at the playing field or Environmental Area or during a visit to the Nature Reserve. This academic year we are also pleased to extend Miss Goodacre's Forest School skills to classes throughout the Upper School, an additional opportunity, which I know will be welcomed by all.

You may have noticed that we have not sent out a 'Dates for the Diary' schedule this term. Government guidance has advised continued caution when planning school trips and has also continued to advise against additional 'bodies' in school. With this in mind, as well as the extended period of absence for many children, we are placing a clear focus on school-based activities using a robust curriculum, to ensure that children have the opportunity to rebuild their confidence in the classroom. We already anticipate that the usual Christmas activities will be greatly curtailed however, we look forward to using our creativity to ensure that children still have access to a range of exciting activities and we look forward to the possibility of a performance at the end of the Summer Term.

This term is also more than a little poignant for both myself, and Mrs Barber.

Mrs Barber is intending to remain with us until Christmas and is intending to return following an operation scheduled for mid-October.

For myself, I am delighted to be able to announce that we have finally been able to conduct interviews in school and have appointed a new Headteacher, Mrs Anne Daynes, who will be spending some time with us after half term and will then be leading the school forward after Christmas. We feel that she will soon settle into the role and is currently an experienced Assistant Headteacher in an Outstanding Primary School. We know she will bring a wealth of skills and experience to our school and we look forward to introducing her 'in person' to you after half term..

Kind regards,

Mrs J Miles.

Mrs H Page



*Principal: Sheila A Page. Cert. Ed. Dist. SMPS.*