



Dear Parents,

As we have reached the end of term for our school, I thought I would provide you with a brief update.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all children, staff and parents for their patience, support and flexibility during the past term. Everyone has had to adapt to new ways of working, new methods of classroom delivery, control measures on site and changes to our normal school arrangements. It has proved a real logistical challenge at times and one which we have met well.

We continue to see fantastic levels of attendance of our children. This is great news and demonstrates how well our control measures have been working and classes have been delivered effectively.

It was a delight to see the children engaging in the class topics and activities, even though I mistook a Spartan for a Roman at the school gate, only to feel the Spartan's wrath with his rather convincing sword!

Nothing will stop the joys of the class nativity. The children and staff have worked tirelessly to produce videos of their plays, which will be released on Dojo imminently. I have no doubt these will be excellent and thank the staff for all of their additional hard work in making Christmas as 'normal' as it has been in previous years.

Susie Evans will continue in her role as Interim Headteacher at Sherford when we return from the Christmas break into the New Year. Ms Clair Christon, our foundation year teacher, is leaving Sherford and I am sure you will all join me in thanking her for her dedication and hard work and wishing her all the very best for the future.

The Westcountry Trust continues to support Sherford, along with all the other schools in the trust. In November, Richard Woodland, Director of Inclusion, and Laurie Archer (SENCO at Dunstone School) carried out a supportive review of SEN at Sherford. Richard Light, Director of Primary School Improvement and Suzie Winter, a Senior Data Analyst trialled a new method of reviewing safeguarding across Trust schools through a pilot at Sherford.

Looking ahead, during the Spring term, a full plan of school improvement activities across the Trust continues. There are exciting projects being undertaken with Sherford, such as looking at the core principles of evidence-based teaching, developing a mastery approach to maths, and an approach to help children understand and deal with responding to different situations.

As always, if you wish to discuss anything please do come and speak to me on the school pick up/drop off or contact the school office for an appointment.

May I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a restful break and a safe return in the New Year.

Warmest regards



Chair of Governors