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16 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

On behalf of all of the Governing Body, I wanted to write to publicly thank all our school staff for their efforts over what has been a very difficult and different year. As we come to the end of 2020, I'm sure most of us will be glad to see the back of it, but it is a time to reflect, and I wanted to let the staff know how much their hard work is appreciated – not just by Governors, but by parents, children and the whole school community.

We are all well aware of all the extra work involved in keeping our children safe whilst minimising the disruption to their education – the hours spent preparing lessons in ways that they can be safely run, the extra cleaning, the stress and worry over their own and colleagues' safety, and the difficulties of keeping children engaged when they can't do so many of the things that they would normally.

On that note, it's especially good to see everything that has been done to make this Christmas as good as it can be for the children and their parents. I'm aware of staff spending their weekends editing videos of nativity plays, so that every parent gets to watch their children – and of the photos sent home of each child in their nativity play – I know parents have been delighted with these! Many schools have simply cancelled all the usual Christmas events, so it really reflects well on all our staff that once again, they've thought creatively and gone the extra mile for the children of our Federation.

I would also like to thank all of you for the fantastic support you've shown to the staff and the schools over the course of the pandemic – we've received many kind messages, and I can assure you that they are very much appreciated. Whether it's following the new instructions in the playground, or ensuring that the children were doing what they needed to during the closure, or just a cheery wave and "Thank-you" at drop-off or pick-up, your support has been a huge help to staff!

So, with only a day and a half left of this term, I wish you all the very best possible Christmas you can have under the circumstances, and I hope that you all enjoy the break. Best wishes to you all, and to all your families – and thanks once again to our amazing school staff!

Mike Eckersley
Chair of Governors
North Wolds Federation