



ELTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Lane, Elton, Peterborough, PE8 6RS

Telephone: 01832 280314, Fax: 01832 281214

E-mail: office@elton.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.eltonschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Claire Arnold

EXPECT, ENDEAVOUR, EXCEED

FRIENDSHIP

TRUST

JUSTICE

ENDURANCE

COMPASSION

KOINONIA

Dear Children,

I hope that you're all well, I just wanted you all to know that...

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU (AGAIN)!!! 😊 😊 😊

I know that things have been strange (and still are) but I hope that you are feeling excited about coming back to school and seeing all your friends again (and doing lots of learning too😊).

I know that some of you might be feeling a bit worried about coming back, and be thinking things like, "What if my friends don't want to play with me anymore?" or "What if I've forgotten everything and I can't do what everyone else can?" or "I've been at home and I'm going to miss my family, I don't really want to come back!" but please don't worry – our most important job here is to make sure you feel safe and happy, because we know that that's the way we'll get the best out of you, and that's what we want! So, we've planned some exciting things to do with you this half-term to get you all back in the swing of things. Our focus will be on **belonging** - as a whole school team, as class teams and as friendship groups. We've planned in lots of time to work and lots of time to play and establish all those friendships and routines again. We'll be focusing on how we interact with each other, how we speak to each other, how we can learn to empathise with our friends and the people we meet and how we can keep ourselves safe, alongside all the skills-based maths and literacy that we might have forgotten...

First of all though, I need to tell you some things that I've told your grown-ups... Sorry, you're not going to like me much for this 😊

Number one on the list - bedtimes... I know, I know, don't moan at me!...but I bet lots of you have got into the habit of going to bed a bit later and getting up a bit later. Am I right? In that case, I need you to start going to bed earlier. It will really help when you're at school – you can't be the best you can be and achieve your potential if you're tired and emotional and grumpy with all your friends. It's hard to focus and hard to learn anything when you feel like that. So if your mum or dad ask you to go to bed earlier this weekend, it's my fault! Blame me! But do it! And while we're on the subject - screens... You need to start spending less time on them if that's something you do a lot, so that you're alert and ready to learn. So if mum, dad, or grandparents say that you're not allowed them over the weekend, or just before bedtime, then it's all my fault again! Blame me!

When you come back to school, there will be a few new rules in place (at least for the first few weeks) just to help us to keep safe. I know lots of you love to bring everything into school in

gigantic rucksacks, but for this term (at least) I'd like you to leave the rucksacks at home.

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I've asked your grown-ups to send you in with 2 bags; one (a carrier bag so that it will hang on a peg without falling off) which will have a change of footwear in it, and one bag that will fit in your tray (so a book bag, or another carrier bag) to take home your work or letters.

Grown-ups are not going to be allowed into school at all, so you'll have to become really good at looking after your own things and making sure that you've got the things you need with you all the time. You'll always need to make sure you bring your water bottle to school, then take it home every night to be cleaned. You'll have to make sure you've got the right clothes for the weather – don't blame mum or dad if you forget your coat and have a cold and soggy playtime - it's not their fault!

Year 6 – I know that one of your privileges is normally to bring in your own pencil case and stationery from home, but please would you wait until after half term until we see how things go? We've got things ready for you here, and we'd prefer not to have lots of things going between school and home, especially when they are large and fluffy and tactile☺!

Anyway, I'm going to go home now and have an early night without any screen time ☺

I'm really looking forward to seeing you all, but if you have any worries or questions, you can email me or your teacher.

Have a lovely weekend and get some sleep! See most of you on Monday,

Mrs A ☺ x