



## Athersley South Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs E. Sanderson  
Deputy Headteacher: Mr J. Wheelwright



Dear Parents/Carers,

On this, the last day of term, I just wanted to send you one final letter for 2020. Both this calendar year and the academic year 2020-21 to date, have provided unprecedented challenges to education but I feel it is important to reflect and recognise how well we have coped, how plans have developed and how, working together, we have continued to support our children both at school and at home.

The resilience demonstrated by our children has been immense. The way that they have dealt with the changes to their lives as a result of the pandemic, various levels of lockdown and the changes and restrictions to their school day has been nothing less than remarkable. Since September, they have returned to school and embraced their learning again, managing change, adapting to new routines and guidance while continuing to function within their now familiar 'bubbles'. The effort that we have seen has been brilliant, all children have worked hard and there have been some real notable individual achievements too. We are immensely proud of our children and we hope you are too.

In addition to the children and their efforts I would also like to recognise our school staff. They too have had to adapt their roles as a result of new routines and guidance, often at short notice following updated Government guidance, while still providing the very best for your children. I am incredibly proud of every member of staff in school and cannot thank them enough for their ongoing commitment and dedication to your children, to their education, safety and wellbeing. Our school genuinely feels like a happy and safe place to be.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you as parents and carers, for your ongoing support and understanding and the way in which you have responded to new restrictions that we have put in to place. Although we have had four bubble closures, we have managed to minimise as far as is possible the impact of Covid on our school. This is something that school has not achieved alone and has only been possible because of your actions within the community, ensuring that you and your children are as safe as they can be from the virus. I want to thank you for the fact that we came together as a community by staying apart from each other.

It only remains for me to say that I hope you have a wonderful, albeit different, Christmas and I wish you a very happy and healthy new year. We look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Kind regards

Mrs E. Sanderson  
Headteacher