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Dear parent / guardian

Hope that you and your families are keeping safe and well. It has been another challenging half term for us all with the continuation of the national lockdown, the associated restrictions and the ongoing remote learning.

Despite the situation though, I have continued to be impressed by the efforts of both staff and pupils in working to try to overcome these challenges. There have been some incredibly creative and diverse ways in which support for the pupils and learning opportunities have been delivered.

However, although we are all trying to do the best for our pupils, I am well aware of the fact that having our young people work from home in this way is no substitute for having them in the school building working with their teachers and with each other.

Hopefully though, a return to this normal is not too far off in the distance. You will know that there are plans currently being put in place to support the youngest of pupils to return to school after the February half term and I am hopeful that further announcements will indicate the pathway ahead to start planning a welcome return to school for our pupils too.

In the meantime, I just want to say a huge thank you for all of your support. This period of time will no doubt have had its challenges for you too, and this balanced with home schooling won't have always been easy over this last half term, but with the half term break ahead can I encourage your children to take a break from the school work and the screens.

I don't doubt that there will be anxieties about time lost and perhaps even more so in key examination year groups, but rest assured that there is work going on to help support the pupils when they do return to school and changes to the summer assessments this year have been made to ensure that pupils in Y11 and Y13 are not disadvantaged as they start to think about their next steps.

The Coronavirus and the way it has impacted upon all our lives has been incredibly disruptive and although 'pre-pandemic' normal may not be achieved within the next few weeks or even months, with the distribution of the vaccine now well underway and the number of cases in Wales continuing to fall, I am hopeful that we will be able to achieve something close to normal very soon.

What is important is to know that we are a community and to know that as a school we are dedicated to working with you in support of your children - our pupils. We are in this together and we will reach a point when the restrictions, the disruption and the anxieties associated with this pandemic will be a memory, but in the meantime know that we will get through this together and that you, our families, have our support.

Hope you have a good half term and I hope I will be able to write to you again very soon with an update regarding a return to school.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Jarvis
Headteacher