



Willows Academy Trust

ASPIRE ... ACHIEVE ... THRIVE

Sawley Junior School
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Friday 1st May 2020

To all Staff,

It is a certainly a strange time we are all experiencing. Who knew we would understand how to be socially distant in the supermarket and on a daily walk?

I am writing to thank you all so much for all effort you are putting into making our academies run smoothly during this unusual set of circumstance we find ourselves in. Without the effort you are putting in to make our schools welcoming and exciting for our pupils, many services essential to the health and wellbeing of our society would not be maintained.

This 'new normal' has brought many challenges and these will be different for all of us. I read a facebook post that described everyone sailing through the same sea but in different boats. My boat holds myself and my husband and a couple of dogs, but our three daughters are grown up and now live elsewhere so we are missing them immensely. I expect your boats have some things in common with mine and somethings that are different; whatever your boat looks like, I hope it is a peaceful place where you can recharge from your busy days in school.

I am writing this towards the end of Friday afternoon, so the weekend is rapidly approaching, it reminds me that it is important for you to balance your work and commitment to our children with your own families and your personal wellbeing. Please take time to relax and rest whenever you can - it is crucial to remember that you are important too!

We should hear over the course of next week how the government expects the phased reopening of our schools to take shape. This will bring with it new challenges and yet another new way of working. I know that whatever this may look like you will all continue to do your best to make it work for the pupils in our academies.

So thankyou once again from myself and on behalf the board of trustees for all that you are doing and continue to do. You are playing a vital part in our community's response to the crisis, it is very much appreciated.

Kindest regards

Sam Dennis

Chair of Board of Trustees

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