

17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Pine Class,

We are fast approaching the end of term and the end of the school year and it has been a very odd year. At this time of year, we often reflect upon how the year has gone and that got me to thinking about all sorts of things when I went for my walk this morning, particularly about the last four months.

None of us expected a pandemic; it is the stuff of science fiction and mass destruction. Whilst we have seen a lot of people lose their lives it has given many more of us the chance to evaluate our own lives. It has made me realise how much I enjoy teaching; I have learnt new skills (using different technologies), I have read more, gardened more, practised my music more, started to learn Spanish and all of these things have helped me grow as a teacher. Putting yourself in the place of a learner is always a thought provoking experience!

I have also learnt about resilience and the strength that can come from being a part of a community determined to support each other through difficult times. At school and at home we have found different ways to stay in touch, stay positive, learn and have fun and whilst it may not have always been easy it has made me feel very grateful to have so many lovely people in my life.

So, a final task for you this term; take ten minutes or so to think back over the last four months and consider the things that you have learnt, enjoyed or found difficult. They don't have to be facts it could be that you have learned something about yourself - maybe from trying new things, changes in your relationships with other people (who knew your adults were teachers?), finding out how you like to learn, realising the things that are important to you and the things you are grateful for.

Finally, I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:15 for a chance to catch-up and say goodbye.

Stay safe and see you soon,

Mrs Bailey