

31<sup>st</sup> August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very fond and warm welcome back to you! It seems as though we were only waving goodbye to the last academic year five minutes ago and already the new one is upon us! I hope that you have all had a fantastic and safe summer break and that you are looking forward to this new academic year as much as I am. Things should gradually start to feel a little more 'normal' and we are optimistic about the wide range of things we have planned on the horizon. We have a number of new members of staff beginning with us this year, whom I know are looking forward to getting to know yourselves and the children in their class. Personally, I am very much looking forward to getting to know our new children and families as well as being reacquainted with our existing ones.

Now that the country has moved to Step 4 of the roadmap, the government will continue to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the virus. This marks a new phase in the government's response to the pandemic, moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, alongside targeted interventions to reduce risk. As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now an imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to children are extremely low, and every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for two doses by mid-September.

The government's priority is for schools to deliver face-to-face, high quality education to all pupils. The evidence is clear that being out of education causes significant harm to educational attainment, life chances, mental and physical health. Before the children return to school on **Thursday 2 September 2021**, I would advise you to re-read some of the key documentation that is available on the [Covid-19 Info](#) page on the school website. This will help familiarise yourselves and the children with our procedures prior to the start of the new academic year. Key documentation includes our latest risk assessment, outbreak management plan, arrangements for remote learning and the latest news on contact tracing and self-isolation.

Please email the school office [shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk](mailto:shb-office@shb.jtmat.co.uk) if you have any enquiries in the meantime. Otherwise, we look forward seeing yourselves and our children on Thursday.

Many thanks and kind regards,



Mr D. Adams  
Head Teacher