Dear Parent / Guardian,

I am writing to update you on how the return of more children to school has gone this week and also to provide you with further information linked to the next three weeks.

Firstly, thank you for supporting us this week in ensuring that it has been a smooth and safe start for those children who have returned for their first day of school based learning since March. Some children would have felt very excited about coming back to school others would have felt nervous after so long away. However, it was lovely to see how well they settled and adapted to being back in school. It was lovely to hear the sound of laughter again within Cleddau Reach and to see children within each class working safely and with enthusiasm.

It has been encouraging to see that 83% of our Reception – Year 6 children were able to return this week. By having one day of direct contact with the staff who normally work with them it has allowed each child to have more detailed support and feedback linked to their home learning and also direct individual and small group teaching.

For those families who are in circumstances where they feel it is not the right time for their children to return and the parents of Class 1 children support up until the end of the summer term will continue in the same pattern as the last three months.

At present home based learning is still the main method of learning across Wales and I would like to thank both staff and families for supporting this so well. Nearly all children across our school have been able to engage with this learning, often in very difficult and challenging circumstances. It has been lovely to see more examples of this work and to hear from the children who have returned this week about all the exciting ways they have undertaken learning at home. Once again I would like to stress that the school appreciates how challenging this can be and please don’t worry if you are not able to complete everything that staff set. Please do what you and your child can in your own individual circumstances.

For the remainder of the summer term each Friday will be used for a deep clean to be undertaken in school. On this day staff will have more time to focus on responding to home learning and planning for the next week of home and school based learning. Home based learning support will continue until the start of the summer holidays on Friday 24th July and the autumn term will begin on Wednesday 2nd September. Teaching and learning has been heavily disrupted by CV-19 during 2019-2020 but all parents will receive a summary report on the progress made by their son / daughter. The summary report will be sent home during the last week of this term.
At present there has been no announcement from Welsh Government on how schools will operate during the autumn term. Until we know this it will be impossible to provide clear information about how Cleddau Reach and other Welsh schools will run in September. Once this information is available I will outline how it will impact on the ways in which our school can run during the autumn term.

Finally, it has been wonderful to see how parents, staff and children have adapted so well this week to the new times and routines we have put in place to ensure that Cleddau Reach remains a safe and secure learning environment. The staff and I will look forward to building on this start next week.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Groves