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### End of Spring Term message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

As we end this Spring term, the staff and I would like to acknowledge and reflect on the anniversary of the time our school closed its doors in the first national lockdown a year ago and to take this opportunity to respectfully turn our thoughts to all those who have lost their lives and those who have had to face the unimaginable grief of suddenly losing a loved one over the past year.

When the school doors closed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 we did not know that the period of uncertainty would continue and that there would be further lockdowns and further school restrictions to follow.

Reflecting on how we pulled together as a school community - how together we continued to ensure a good measure of learning for the children, how we implemented protective measures in school and in our homes, how we had to learn the dynamics of live lessons and remote learning, conduct welfare checks and ultimately manage to reintegrate the children back into school with such great success, we should ALL be extremely grateful and proud of ourselves.

I feel it is important for me to share with you that throughout this pandemic our Newhall Primary Academy and Nursery staff have had to manage their own families, their own concerns and anxieties about exposure to the virus whilst doing their job, yet they worked every single day. Including working from home on occasions when they were required to self-isolate. It was lovely to see the staff in Hero outfits today – a well-deserved acknowledgment of their own remarkable efforts.

We are determined to make the most of the Summer Term. Our plan is to focus on catch-up programs and our children's mental and physical health in the first instance. But we also want a good measure of ENJOYMENT. Hopefully, as the vaccination programme continues to roll out and we continue to make progress against the virus, we can soon be reunited with family and friends and maybe even see each other in person at school events once more.

Thank you for your kindness and support. I look forward to the next term and indeed the next academic year which hopefully will present new opportunities for us to work together for the benefit of our pupils.

**Wishing you all a safe, blessed and happy end of term holiday from us all.**

Yours Sincerely

**Mrs Ward**