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Dear Parents/Carers,

We wanted to write to you now that we have reached the end of our first term back in school to say thank you for your understanding and support since returning to school in September.

Coming back to school under the new restrictions COVID-19 brings has been difficult for staff and children alike, but it has been made much easier by the support we have received from parents. We appreciate that many procedures in school, such as drop off and pick-ups, are different now and may take longer but want to thank you for continuing to support us in this. These procedures will be continuing next term and we ask that you ensure that you keep to times etc as this is keeping our community as safe as possible.

Hopefully, your children will have told you all about our special visitors to school this week. We were delighted to have the reindeer on site on Tuesday and it made our day watching the children's faces as they went to see them. The children learnt lots about reindeers and even watched them being sprinkled with magic dust so that they can help Santa on Christmas Eve! We would like to thank the school PTA and Bawtry Town Council for contributing towards the cost of this special event.

The Christmas period certainly has been different in school this year but the children have made it very special for us as usual. In fact, throughout the term, the resilience, determination and positivity your children have shown has been remarkable and they have made us proud to work here every day. They are a real credit to you and their teachers.

Being a teacher, or teaching assistant, is a challenging (but extremely rewarding) job under normal circumstances, but this term has been more difficult for staff and their workload and pressures have increased. We know that you will join us in thanking them for their dedication and hard work this term as they really have gone the extra mile each day to make sure that the children have a great environment in which to learn and thrive. We would also like to thank the rest of the school staff for ensuring that school is as safe as it can possibly be for us when we come each day. We have received lots of messages of support from parents and staff in school have really appreciated this - it really gives them a boost.

Although Christmas will be different this year for many of us, please enjoy your time as a family as it really is precious. We, as we are sure most of you are too, are hesitant about what January will bring following a period of relaxed rules over Christmas; however, we will continue to do our best to keep everyone as safe as possible and we know you will support us in this.

Hopefully, everyone will stay safe and well over the holiday period; however, please read today's blog to remind yourselves of the procedures for contacting us over the Christmas holidays if your child tests positive for COVID.

We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year and know you will join us in hoping that 2021 brings with it some resemblance of normality, where we can see loved ones; spend time with friends and, most importantly for us, hug the children again!

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. Keep safe!

Merry Christmas and Happy New year!

Mrs Walker and Mrs Jenkinson

