



St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School  
Willowcroft, off Warwick Avenue, Quorn, Loughborough, LE12 8HQ.  
Telephone: (01509) 412250

6<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Families,

May I first say, I hope you all had a lovely Christmas with plenty of hugs! Now here we are in a new year! What a 2021 we are entering, with another bumpy road to navigate but we must all hold on to the positives and the light now being able to be seen. We just all need to keep doing what we are doing. One foot in front of the other, day by day.

It occurred to me last night, well hubby actually, as we were talking over our days, that what children are living with now is not irrespective to what my mum lived through with the Coventry Blitz. She actually was evacuated to Gloucester, as were lots of children, while now your little ones are being asked to stay home. Hubby actually said that the children of today are making history. It's true. How incredible is that? In years to come, they will all have a shared experience that will come out in conversations, with I'm sure, a few embellishments too.

Your children are amazing! They are all resilient and brave. They are staying home to help the world get better. However, let's not forget you as parents too. In fact, I will widen that to the St Bart's community: families, children and all staff. We all do our part and some days will be tougher to face than others; emotions will be bumpy too, but it's ok. Whatever you are feeling, someone else is feeling the same. Don't be hard on yourselves - it's fine and natural to feel the whole gamut of emotions; just be gentle on yourselves. Remember to give each other space away from one another too. Life can get claustrophobic when home schooling and working from home. Education is important, rightly so, but so is time outside; be it raining, snowing or sunny. Space allows us all to breathe a deeper breath and take stock. It's also excellent for your wellbeing.

Always remember that if you need an ear, the school is here for you. Personally, I'm happy for anyone to email me and I WILL reply. All teachers are also only an email away. Again, the St Bart's community is what we need to use to support one another. We can do this together!

For children that I see in school, I will be calling each of you over the next few weeks. Again, I'm happy for children to email me too. I'm here for you as families as much as I am the children. I will try and make the calls between 9.30- 11.30 am and 12.30-2.30pm.

If you need anything, or are struggling with home schooling, anything, please let us know. We, your school, are here... always.

One thing that I have noticed about the pandemic, is the kindness that has been shown to everyone. Kindness and understanding actually. Lovely qualities that are needed in life. Be kind and gentle to yourselves and understand when you need to step away and breathe for a time. Don't put undue pressure on yourselves.



I apologise for the length of this email, we must hold the faith that this time will pass and joyfulness will come once more. Sending you all virtual hug. Please call or email if you need anything - we are here!

**Julie Williams**

**ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)**

**[elsa@st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk](mailto:elsa@st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk)**

