



ALL SAINTS CHURCH
HOLBEACH

Reverend Canon Rosamund Seal
Vicar of Holbeach
Rural Dean of Elloe East

5th June 2020

Dear Headteacher

I wanted to take this opportunity to write to all the primary schools in the deanery to thank you for the extraordinary work you are doing both with and for the children in our community and their families.

I have been popping fairly regularly into William Stukeley School and Holbeach Primary Academy and talking to the heads and staff there and so have an inkling of the work that you have had to do in a relatively short time and in extenuating circumstances to continue to teach the children of key workers, and more recently, to get your school buildings and your staff ready to receive many of your Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children back into school. I am aware that this has put your resources, ingenuity and patience under a great degree of strain and will continue to do so for some time to come. It has required you to go against your deepest instincts about what is best for our children and all the usual ways in which you aim to create a healthy and stimulating environment that is conducive to learning. It has also given you a not-inconsiderable concern for your own safety and that of your families.

I have asked our churches and their congregations to pray for you all, for Heads, teachers, TAs and other support staff, all of whom have been doing a phenomenal job since the crisis began; not only teaching those children who have remained in school all this time, but also compiling work for those who are being home-schooled. Thank you for being willing change your working practices at the drop of a hat and learn to work in very different ways, and for rising to the challenge for the sake of our children.

I am aware that many of you have regularly rung families to keep in touch with how the children are getting on and have visited the homes of those you have particular concerns for. I am aware also that many of you have made a huge effort to ensure that your vulnerable families are fed and have worked in partnership with the various foodbanks serving the area in order to do this.

We should all be very proud of you and hugely grateful for all you have done and continue to do.

If there is anything the church can offer you by way of support please do let me know.

With my gratitude, admiration and prayers

Rosamund Seal

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