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Head of School: Helen O'Brien

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear Children,

Today has been a very strange day. We opened the doors to our beautiful little school knowing that many of you would not be here. We know that lots of you are staying at home to keep yourselves safe and although we miss you we know that your families have made this decision because you are so special.

We have been so proud of you all over the last few weeks. It has been tricky having to wash your hands more and listen to new information from adults but you have all done it with a smile on your faces! We loved watching as you used elbow bumps to tell your friends you liked their work and enjoyed watching as some of our younger children made hand gel into a sensory play experience! Everything can be fun at The Orchard's.

Now you are at home you will need to keep making us proud by staying safe and listening to your important adults. We know it is going to be tricky to be in your house lots but remember it is not forever. It is to keep you safe.

Children you are the heartbeat of our school and we will really miss seeing you each and every day. We will be keeping our school open for some of your friends who need us just now.

To our wonderful, amazing Year Six, we will not let you leave The Orchards without the celebration you and your family deserve. Every one of you is so special and unique and it has been our privilege to watch you grow and blossom. Even though the current situation may mean this is the end of your primary school years, we will make sure you have a celebration which marks the fact that you are, and always will be, a valued and loved part of The Orchard's family.

We are not sure when things will get back to normal but please know your teachers will be in touch with you every day through class dojo. They will look forward to seeing the learning you are doing at home! Try every day to get up as normal and get dressed. It is important that if you can, you do some of the learning your teacher suggests. It will help you to feel happy and it is good to be busy.

Sometimes you may feel unsure about what is going on and this may cause you to have big feelings or worry. Remember you can talk to your mum or dad about these feelings or your teacher if you like.

I am so proud of each and every one of your families. They love you all so much, make sure you love them back!

Take care and we will see you very soon.

Lots of love from,

All the staff at The Orchard's.



**TOGETHER WE WILL**  
Challenge the ordinary  
Promote individuality  
Be advocates for change

