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Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year. Whilst this is an academic year like no other we have ever experienced before, and the new start will be met with a mix of emotions by all, we are glad to be open fully so we can educate all the children we serve. This is the first year Park has all classes up to Year Six in operation, and all classes full of children, so welcome to 2020 - 2021! Welcome in particular to the new Reception class who have joined us. We all look forward to getting to know you more over the next few weeks.

Unfortunately I will not be at school until Monday as I am having to self-isolate as I returned from Croatia just before the self isolation rules were imposed. It is frustrating that I cannot be at school during the important first few days, but I am working from home supporting the brilliant Park team from a far as best I can. On Monday, I am very much looking forward to seeing all the children back in class, where they should be. In the meantime, if you would like to discuss anything with me, please call the office and this can be arranged.

We are very excited to welcome on board the new members of the Park Team: Miss Barnes will be teaching Year Six. Miss Barnes is also the Assistant Head, Literacy Lead and Key Stage Two Lead. She has a number of years experiences in Year Six and we are delighted to have her on board to support our continued growth. We also welcome two newly qualified teachers this year: Mr Levinson who will be teaching Year Three and Miss Stephenson who is teaching Year Five. They have both recently relocated to London and they are looking forward to meeting the children in their respective classes and supporting them to achieve their best this year. We also welcome Mr Appleton who will be leading PE this year and teaching all the children PE. He will also be supervising play and lunch times to ensure games are well structured and fun for everyone. On another note, sadly Ms Morcombe has left Park! She recently bought a new property in the stunning Lake District and she has started a new role (and a new life!) in a Montessori nursery school up there. Whilst we are all delighted for Pauline as she embarks on an exciting new journey, we are all very sorry and sad that she did not get a proper send off, like she deserves. Pauline was at Park since it opened in September 2014 and she worked with passion and care every day. We will all miss Pauline's kind nature and the warmth and love she showed everyone, but she has promised she will come back to say goodbye to the children around October time so we can all tell her grateful for her for all she did for us!

On another note, I wanted to express my commitment to do my best to reinstate Breakfast Club and Stay and Play as soon as it is safe to do so. I fully understand how difficult it is for working parents to cope without this service running. We are currently not running any of these provisions, in line with the other 17 STEP schools as it would involve mixing staff and children from different bubbles which is unsafe. This will be reviewed every Friday and I hope you know that I fully appreciate that this is very

challenging for you and I apologise.

Finally, please remember that children can wear their old Park uniform until the end of the December.

I look forward to seeing you all next week.

Bella Street  
Headteacher