



1st April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the Spring Term and as The Government's roadmap to removing COVID restrictions continues, it is with great pride and admiration that we reflect on the successes of this term. Our online lesson provision was a huge success, with excellent levels of attendance; teaching, learning and progress continued despite the closure of school. Pupils were resilient, determined and focussed throughout. As a result, we have been extremely pleased with the knowledge pupils have been able to demonstrate as they have been assessed since school reopened.

We are delighted with the way in which pupils have returned to their lessons from March 8th. The speed and diligence with which all pupils have returned to their studies has been tremendous. Attendance for the vast majority has been excellent and we thank all parents and carers for your continued supported.

Our lateral flow device (LFD) testing was successful – we completed over 2000 tests in total. We have also been pleased with the roll out of home testing and again thank all parents and carers for your support in completing and reporting home-testing. We continue to support the national effort in home-testing to ensure we can all do our bit to prevent transmission of the virus.

Finally, I write in this letter with a heavy heart - my last letter as Head Teacher at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School. At Easter as you all know, I take up the position of Head Teacher as Swanshurst School in Kings Heath.

I will be leaving DEC this week to take on a new challenge hoping to influence the education and life chances of Birmingham children in a significantly larger and even more diverse school. I am remaining in the South Network so very much still connected to DEC. Dame Elizabeth Cadbury has been my professional home now for 10 years, and I have been Head Teacher for six of those. I look back on our achievements with immense pride. The school is a phenomenal place to be educated, and an equally inspirational place to work. The team of fantastic staff will, I know, continue to provide an unparalleled education to pupils.

Matrix Academy Trust are an incredible organisation brimming with talented leaders and I have been delighted to work alongside Ms Newsome who is taking over from me at Easter. We have completed a thorough hand-over, including some joint assemblies and many visits to lessons. Ms Newsome will confidently and successfully lead the school in its next chapter, retaining the principles on which DEC is built and enhancing provision and outcomes even further – with Ms Newsome and Matrix Academy Trust overseeing the school, it could not be in safer hands.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all parents/carers, past and present, together with all pupils, for your commitment and support over the last 10 years and I wish each and every member of the DEC community every success in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Dunn
Head Teacher

