Dear Parent/carer

During these unprecedented times I would like to keep in touch with you with a weekly update.

This has been a strange week for us all. I have missed what would have been our drive towards Easter which normally involves decorating eggs, learning about the Easter story and the highlight of the year for many of you - the family Easter egg competition. I have to admit I don’t miss the smell of broken hard-boiled eggs drifting around school but I suppose it is all part of the Easter celebration!

School continues to feel strange without you but you are all doing a fantastic job of supporting the NHS by, wherever possible, keeping your children at home and only leaving the house for the reasons the government has stipulated. I am also really proud of all the staff at our school who are keeping you all updated with learning materials.

As I am finding out homeschooling my fourteen-year-old is more challenging than teaching a class of thirty children so I do feel the stresses and strains that you are feeling. Don’t be too hard on yourself and do what you can, it’s not worth everyone being upset if one piece of work does not get done. Do it another day!

As a school we have decided to remain open during Easter and some children of critical workers will be attending. We felt that this was important to do in order to support the NHS and other critical workers who are working very hard at this difficult time. The staff of Wallsend Jubilee have been amazing and have volunteered to work in school during the holidays to ensure we can keep school open.

So today is what would have been the end of the Spring term and the beginning of the Easter break. So, put down the home schooling – I can almost hear a chorus of cheers from both pupils and parents alike, sounding out across Wallsend!! Spend some time with each other, watch a film, sit outside if you are able to and try to relax in what is one of the most stressful times we have ever experienced. As ever I continue to hope we will all be back to normality sooner rather than later and we can come together as our wonderful school community once again.

Yours sincerely

David Harrison