Happy New Year from the Governing Team at Stathern Primary School

To all parents, carers and friends of Stathern Primary School,

We hope that you have all had a lovely Christmas break and have been able to spend time with your families and fill your days with everything that made your heart sing and your waist-line tighten!!

We wish we could welcome you back to school with open arms! However, we all know that we face a few more weeks of challenge! The challenge is made somewhat trickier with the threat of a new strain of the virus and a scattered regional picture of what schools should/should not do as we plan to reopen in January.

You will be fully aware that we are now in Tier 4, so over the weekend the governors have worked with Mrs Lambert and the staff team to review the risk assessment and ensure that procedures in school reflect the current guidance. You may also be aware that, following the announcements from parliament at the end of last week, many of the education and teacher unions are very actively advocating for ALL schools to remain closed and their members to stay at home.

We have therefore consulted carefully with all staff to ascertain their feelings about a return to work when colleagues in other areas of the country will be working from home until later in the month. We have been, yet again, overwhelmed by the commitment and positivity of the staff team. Because of their dedication and willingness to return to work, we are able to continue to remain open.

As representatives of parents, staff and the wider community, the school governors fully appreciate the ongoing feelings of conflict and confusion that you all face as each one of us endeavours to make the right decisions for our children. Whilst the national picture remains complex, we wish to assure you that we remain absolutely mindful of the unique circumstances that all members of our school community are in. It is crucial that we seek to support each other with compassion as we patiently await the vaccine. The light is at the end of the tunnel!

We thank you for your support of the school and would echo the request from Karen and the team for **all** parents to please adhere to the measures that are in place with regards to before and after school routines and communication. Likewise, if you have any questions or concerns we encourage you to speak to the school directly.

If you have any questions for the governing board, please do not hesitate to email callen@stathern.leics.sch.uk

With very best wishes from,

Clare Allen

Chair of Governors

@stathernprimary