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Dear Children,

We have written many letters over the past weeks to your parents and now we would like to write to you.

Over the last week some of you have already had to miss school because of the coronavirus. Your parents have had to keep you at home as part of keeping everyone safe. For many of you, Friday was your last day at school for a long time.

When you come back to school lots of things will have changed. It won't be Spring any more. You might come back into the next year group. There might be new teachers and new friends to get to know. BUT... lots and lots of things won't change.

Your school grown-ups will carry on thinking about you every single day. We will wonder if you are still getting better at your handwriting and what you are reading now. We will hope you are doing the very important job you have been given to help stop the spread of coronavirus – KEEP WASHING YOUR HANDS!

While you are away from school please keep checking the 'children' section on the school website, in particular the 'great websites to use at home' sub-section. Your teachers will be adding new things. We are in the middle of setting up a way of sharing activities with you on BGFL and will let you know when this is ready.

We will keep on loving you even though we won't be able to see you every day for a while. We want to tell you some important things:



1. *Don't be frightened. You may hear some things that you are worried about, but these are not worries for you. Tell someone you trust about your worry and let them look after it for you.*
2. *Any children who continue going to school are not more special than you. They are being looked after for a while because their parents can't, because they are doing some particularly important jobs right now.*
3. *There are some good things happening in amongst the bad things. There is less air travel and as a result the environment is getting a bit of a rest, and, who knows, maybe we can work out new and better ways of doing things in the future because we have had to.*
4. *People are talking to each other and offering to help each other more. That is a very good thing, make sure you do that too. **Be kind**, helpful and generous in the days ahead. Please don't argue with your family.*
5. *Even though you won't be attending school, you can still learn and try your best at everything you do.*

You are a very special bunch of children.

So, although we have said goodbye to each other for a while, but please keep singing, playing, making, drawing, writing, problem-solving, and learning about our amazing world. We are having an adventure and like all real adventurers, we have to be brave.

Lots of love from,

Your Thornton Family.

xxx