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Dear Parent/Carer

1st March 2021

Re: Return to School Project

Further to my recent letter, I am now writing to share with you our plans for supporting our children's return to school. As stated in my previous letter, we will be taking a very positive approach; helping children to settle back into school and learning different routines; helping them to identify the positive skills they have developed during lockdown and helping them to understand our new Learning Zones and super powers.

In order to do this, I would like to be able to take each Learning Zone to the Weardale Outdoor Education Centre at Ireshopeburn for a day of outdoor learning experiences. I am working closely with their education team to design individually tailored activities which link with our specific super powers and also achieve our other aims.

We believe that this experience will help the children:

- To rebuild friendships
- To establish new friendships within their Learning Zone
- To re-build or develop a meaningful relationship with their Teaching Team
- To understand the super power for their Learning Zone
- To build resilience
- To identify and recognise all of the many positive skills they have acquired during lockdown
- To celebrate those positive skills and learn how to transfer them into their learning moving forward
- To re-ignite their love of learning in an exciting and engaging way
- To manage their emotional well-being and mental health

There are countless other benefits in terms of healthy outdoor activities and also the fact that we will be supporting a local business which has been significantly affected by the pandemic.

In order for all of our 155 children to attend, this will cost in the region of £6,500 which is huge sum of money.

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I will NOT be asking parents to make a contribution to this project as I know many of you are still furloughed or have recently lost employment.

I am applying for grants from the WAAP (Weardale Area Action Partnership) and from our local councillors, parish council and businesses.

Ideally, we would like to return to the Weardale Outdoor Education Centre again in July for our Summer Term trip so that children can see the progress and improvement made over the course of the Summer Term.

As such, I am writing for two reasons: firstly, to let you know our plans but also to ask if any of you know or work for businesses who may be willing to make a donation to support our project. If you can approach your employers or anyone who you feel may be able to help raise this huge sum of money, I will be very grateful. Can you please let Cath Rice (Friend of Stanhope Barrington) know of anyone who can support us by emailing her on cathrice@hotmail.com. Cath is kindly co-ordinating this on our behalf.

Thank you for your help and assistance with this incredibly important return to school project.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross

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Head Teacher

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