Dear families...

This week has seen us overcome a number of barriers and hurdles to returning schools to a semblance of normality for this term as we (for Robin Hood Academy, Yenton Primary and Ulverley School) welcomed back Y1 and Y6 children into school (for Cedars Academy the Y6 children returned last week). We are pleased with how the reintegration of these pupils has gone to date and, whilst so far we have achieved a high level of success in this area, we are still placing health and safety at the forefront of our minds in terms of how we operate. We now know that our schools have been able to operate successfully with ‘bubble’ groups for targeted year groups and the next step is to fully understand what the maximum capacity of each school is whilst adopting these measures and also gaining a clear understanding of how much we stress we can put on the system whilst remaining as safe as possible. With this in mind we will be progressing forwards slowly to ensure we get this right - we fully understand that for many of you there is an urgent need for school to reopen and rest assured that we want all of the children in as soon as possible and yet, with the government announcing that primary schools will not fully reopen until at least September, we have a lot to think about and also to plan for. Every single decision we make will be with the children’s and staff’s safety in mind - we want to get this right and make sure every action is done to the highest standard.

Today, the headteachers and I met with the sole purpose of discussing how schooling will look for next academic year - there are so many unknowns for September and we are looking into all of these areas. We are looking at a whole range of scenarios including how we prepare your child for a September return to school, ways in which we might be able to allow them to meet their new teacher prior to this (this may be done remotely) and a raft of other areas. Staffing is something that we are also having to work creatively on because we have a number of staff across the Trust who are shielding and as such we need to find ways of covering these positions. I am sure that many of you are dealing with similar issues in your jobs and fields of work - in order to get the country back up and running again there is going to need to be a lot of creative thinking taking place. I wanted to highlight this because it is important that you know that we are working hard behind the scenes and planning for a whole range of scenarios.

Once again, thank you so much for your ongoing support and positivity. As we progress into next week we will begin to provide you with further details about the rest of this term and then, in the coming weeks, about September.

Stay safe, Stay well.

Steve Taylor
Executive Headteacher
Robin Hood Multi Academy Trust
What’s been happening this week?

Click on the carnival masks and instruments below to see what’s been going on across our schools and at home this week. There’s some fantastic work from this week’s project - **Music!** Keep up the great work…