Hello again from Ilsington C of E Primary School!

Despite having only been back one week, our children have been very busy!

Honeywell and pre-school enjoyed blackberrying around Ilsington while the older children worked together as a team to construct a Wattle & Daub house! They had to piece together the main frame like a jigsaw puzzle, then thatch the roof and weave willow panels for the walls! Such fun!

Life at school is a little different this term as you might expect as we try to balance a high standard of Covid compliant health and safety standards together with providing a warm, welcoming learning environment for our children.

We have all been surprised by how quickly even the very youngest have adapted to the new systems and how happy they are to be back with children of their own age.

You may have seen the new marquee in the playground at the front of school. It has created an additional space for our younger children so they can have a free flow space for their playing and learning. The Friends of Ilsington Primary purchased this for us and it is going to be invaluable as the autumnal weather sets in! Sadly, the PTA have missed many fundraising opportunities this year, so we are truly grateful to those in the community who have already supported us with generous donations for books and more recently for a new maths scheme of work.

We have begun the term with a renewed desire to embrace the learning opportunities that IT offers the children at home and in school. Despite the challenges of rural internet connectivity, we are experimenting with Microsoft Teams and have learnt how to broadcast our collective worship across the classes and Rev David has actually begun sharing his own YouTube videos - he is truly a cyber vicar!

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and most importantly thank for taking an interest in the school. I hope you all keep safe and well.

Sam McCarthy-Patmore

Academy Head

