

Friday 23rd October

Dear Parents and Carers

Well we just about made it to half term; this week we have had every class in but we cannot be complacent.

As you know our area is in Tier 3 which has implications for us all but school will remain fully open. However as the situation locally and nationally has not improved we will have to continue after half term with our procedures and routines. We are looking at creative ways to celebrate Christmas for the Nativities and Carol Concerts etc but we will continue with no school or class masses, assemblies or any other type of gathering. It really is quite sad however the safety of the community comes first and we are led by the guidelines.

After the break we will continue with the staggered start and finish times and I am afraid before and after school club will remain postponed but this is under constant review. I understand the times are an inconvenience for some families but it greatly assists us with managing numbers entering and leaving the site at one time. In addition we have too many siblings in school to facilitate a safe 'family' drop off time. Also as we only have one corridor in school and a small canteen we will not be offering hot food next term.

We are doing all we can to minimise the impact of COVID – 19 outbreaks in school but I also need to ask for your support. Please can I ask that parents and carers social distance as much as possible at the gates. In addition I would like to ask that we all try and adhere to the Tier 3 rules when not in school. For example households should not be mixing inside for sleepovers etc. We have seen the impact cases can have and Year 3 have been home twice. As a parent I have seen my own children in Years 9 and 11 be sent home twice and it is very frustrating not just academically but socially. Please help us keep safe and reduce the risk of disruption.

In the event of any positive tests or isolations over the half term break please get it touch. Emails and the answer machine will be checked daily.

On a positive note I would like to congratulate all our children. Since we returned they have been amazing and adapted so very well. Their joy and enthusiasm brings much needed joyful optimism. They really are fantastic!!

Dinner money for next half term will be £88.80 or £12 per week.

Thank you as always for your support in all we do.

Yours sincerely

M Mountcastle