February 24th 2021

Dear Parents, Carers,

I hope you all had a restful half term and enjoyed the time away from the pressures of home schooling.

The news on Monday, announcing, all schools can open their doors to pupils of all ages, from March 8th, couldn’t be more welcome. This was the news we had all hoped to hear; coupled with the advent of spring, we have so much to look forward to and celebrate in the term ahead. While this is an exciting time, we are aware of the resilience and effort required by pupils, families and staff, as we work together, to address the disruption to our children’s learning and absence from the routines of school life.

As the prime minister was anxious to point out, Covid 19 is still with us and schools must continue to follow DfE and Public Health England guidance regarding the system of controls and measures a school should follow, to minimise the risk of infection to staff and pupils. This includes a plan for asymptomatic testing. Details of the school’s risk assessment and any planning for a safe return on March 8th, can be found on the school’s website under the ‘Covid 19’ tab.

Please see the following link for the latest government school’s COVID-19 operational guidance:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/963541/Schools_coronavirus_operational_guidance.pdf>

We will still be operating a safe system of class bubbles for teaching, lunch and break times. Children should be dropped off and collected as arranged before the Christmas break. A plan is attached to this letter. Siblings are still welcome to arrive at 8.30am, at gate 2.

Attendance will be mandatory from March 8th 2021. Please contact the school office if your child will not be in school, as usual, after this date.

Further good news, Mr Johnson confirmed that when schools reopen on March 8, after-school sports and activities will also be allowed to restart. Information about the range of clubs on offer at school, after March 8th, will be on the website by the end of this week.

Thank you to all those parents and carers for your kind words of appreciation and support, during this latest lockdown period. The staff and I are really looking forward to seeing all the children and being together once more.

There are some exciting activities planned for the terms ahead, starting with a belated ‘World Book Day’ celebration on Thursday March 11th 2021. Children will have the opportunity to dress up as their favourite character. Further details of how to take part in this event will follow shortly.

Meanwhile, please continue to encourage the children to engage with the remote learning being provided. With only two weeks to go, we need to keep our foot on the pedal and not lose sight of the end goal.

I look forward to seeing you all again, very soon, and catching up with your news, during drop off and collection.

Warmest wishes.

L Anderton

Headteacher