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Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Weekly Update

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are really looking forward to seeing all the children back in school on Monday 8^{th} March. I hope that the transition back will be as successful as it was in September. We will focus on pupil wellbeing over all other considerations to begin with. Having only 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks until Easter allows for a good settling in period before the summer term.

Attached to this letter is an amended version of the information you received prior to pupils returning in September 2020. This is because our protective measures and working procedures will remain largely unchanged from the autumn term. We will continue applying social distancing recommendations, staggering the school day to reduce contact between families and adhering to strict hygiene and ventilation guidelines.

Lateral Flow Testing

There has been a lot of media coverage about the routine Coronavirus testing of secondary school pupils. Primary pupils will not be tested but on Sunday 28th February the government announced that parents and carers in households with primary age children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week at home as schools return. The twice-weekly test kits can be accessed:

- · via employers if they offer testing to employees
- · at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

Schools will not be issuing test kits to parents, carers or household members. Letters containing further advice on where to access testing will be made available for schools to share with parents and carers shortly. In the meantime this <u>guidance</u> provides information on who can be tested and how you can get a test.

Department for Education Laptops

As pupils return on Monday 8th, I kindly ask that all laptops issued to support remote learning are returned to school. These will now be used to support learning in school.

Remote Learning

Remote learning will cease from Monday 8th. However, should individuals or groups of pupils need to isolate in the future, the Google Classroom platform will be used again to deliver remote provision.

Pupil progress day

Thursday 1st April is due to be a parent consultation day. With social distancing requirements and the limited interaction teachers have had with children this term, we have decided to postpone it. Thursday 1st April will now be a teacher training day and the school will be closed to pupils.

I thank you all once again for the fantastic support you have given your children so far this term. I cannot
begin to imagine how hard it is for those of you having to balance working from home with supporting
your children's education. You have done a tremendous job and I hope that, from Monday 8th, life gets a
little bit easier for you.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Hunt