



Rigby Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 2EP

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Headteacher: Mrs T Smith

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29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Families,

I hope you are all well.

I was going to write an update to you last week but thought I would wait on further news from the Government around the new variant.

For us in school, we will continue as we have been. We were going to start to make some changes in terms of Secondary pupils eating together again in the hall this week, but we will continue with classroom eating for the time being.

I think it will be wise to review weekly to see how this variant is impacting on us and whether any new information is shared. I want us to continue to run in the safe and measured manner that we have.

Pupils who wish to wear masks in communal areas can do so. Rooms will still be well ventilated and we have our CO2 monitors to ensure we have enough fresh air. If pupils want to wear masks on transport this is also down to personal preference.

We will continue to send children home who display any symptoms of COVID, for example, persistent cough, cold, sore throat, headache, sickness and diarrhoea.

Please can I reiterate that if your child has had sickness or diarrhoea, that they have a clear 48 hours after the last bout of either, before returning to school. This is NHS guidance, and as you can appreciate, this spreads very quickly around a school environment.

Thank you so much for working with us on this and being so understanding. We have picked up both symptomatic and then asymptomatic cases from following this procedure and working so closely with yourselves so thank you for helping us to keep our children and staff safe.

We will continue to only allow essential visitors in to the building such as Speech and Language Therapists, our School nurse and reading therapy dog, everything else, including Parent/carer meetings, will be carried out virtually.



**“Valuing every achievement”**



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The children are working on our Christmas Play, The Polar Express. We had hoped this would be the first time we could welcome families back in to school but this feels too much at this point. Therefore, the play will be performed, recorded and then shared with you as families.

As a Country we are under review for the next three weeks so I do not want to be doing anything that may cause harm to families over Christmas.

There are a few things in the calendar that I need to make decisions about around whether they continue to go ahead or not. I don't want to rush into anything so will check at the end of the week for latest news and go from there.

In other news... Our Forest School area is now back in action. The children need to dress warm for their sessions in the Forest now the weather has dropped in temperature.

We are really pleased that pupils are continuing to work hard in their lessons and with their learning. We have been hit quite badly with staffing absences and there is a lack of relevantly experienced supply out there at the moment too. Our staff have been amazing at pulling together and being flexible in where they work so this has enabled our children to have the consistency and stability that they have needed and for their lessons to not have been disrupted. There have been some schools where classes have had to close due to staffing so I'm pleased we are currently managing this between ourselves.

As always, if you need any support with anything, please do not hesitate to get in touch with any of us.

Keep safe and well and wrapped up warm!

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tracey'.

Tracey



**“Valuing every achievement”**