

Update: 1.12.21 – Public Health Information

You will be aware that schools are no longer responsible for test & trace. However, we are of course, monitoring cases closely and you will be aware from previous communications that numbers of children (and parents) testing positive has been rising. This week we have hit the trigger point for reporting to Public Health.

The public health officer has confirmed that we have been following all basic & enhanced measures in school. However, due to high levels of household transmissions we need to move to 'exceptional' outbreak measures.

This means that the following measures must be adhered to:

- Parents/visitors not allowed on site – we are absolutely devastated as this will impact on our planned concerts next week
- All staff to lateral flow test daily
- Everyone to ensure they socially distance at drop off & pick up & wear mask
- PCR for all adults & children who are a close contact in your household
- 7 day lateral flow for household if there is a positive case – we have been told children can still attend school unless they test positive
- Keep children off school for full 10 days following positive PCR

There is no one more disappointed than our staff team. We are stuck in the middle of differing national and local advice but you and your children are our absolute priority. These measures from public health are to prevent further household mixing, to protect all (especially the vulnerable) and hopefully to break transmissions. We are all very much aware that Christmas is just around the corner and the last thing anyone would want is to attend an event that might jeopardise the Christmas we've all been hoping for.

The children have been rehearsing in our main entrance area over the past few weeks – they've drawn quite an audience followed with lovely phone calls and comments from people passing by. We were so looking forward to sharing our singing with you. However, so you don't miss out, we will make sure that the concert will be recorded and sent to you via Dojo on Friday 10th December. Also, so the children don't miss out, Christmas activities & fun will start next week and will culminate in party celebrations for each class in the last week of term.

After a really difficult term (in terms of Covid) this is the last letter I wanted to be writing. I know how disappointed many of you will be and I just wanted to thank you all for your continued support and understanding.

L. Gowland

