

12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

I cannot believe I am writing to you at the end of our first half term, already!

I hope you are all well and coping with the difficult situation that we find ourselves in at the moment. We have some good news to pass on to you all and hope this is the start of returning to some kind of normal. The majority of our staff have now had their first dose of the Astra Zeneca vaccine with the second one booked for the Easter holidays. Transport staff, including taxi drivers and escorts have also had their first vaccination. We are carrying out twice weekly Lateral flow tests in school, on all staff, to provide another level of safety and protection, and are constantly reviewing and updating our risk assessments, in line with the latest government guidance. Many of you have been in contact to tell us that your children will be returning to school after the half term holiday and we are really looking forward to welcoming them back.

I have been asked by the Local Authority, to pass on the following information:

**Public Health Reminder: Restrictions over half term**

As half term approaches and you look forward to a well-deserved break, please can we ask you to communicate with parents/carers and pupils as appropriate, that they should not mix with people outside of their household (or support bubble). This includes not mixing in the household of pupils they are in a bubble with at school.

We are still in a National Lockdown <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home> and as a reminder:

You must not leave or be outside of your home except where necessary. You may leave the home to:

- Shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person.
- Go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home.
- Exercise with your household (or support bubble) or one other person (in which case you should stay 2m apart). Exercise should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.
- Meet your support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one.

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- Seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness, or risk of harm (including domestic abuse).
- Attend education or childcare - for those eligible.

If you do leave home for a permitted reason, you should always stay in your local area. As lockdown continues across the country, the Council has pulled together a list of support available to families over the half term break, including information on community food support and financial help through the Winter Grant scheme.

On a different note, you will hopefully all have received your evaluated and updated PLIMS this term, if you have any queries or concerns please contact your class teachers or any member of the leadership team when we are back in school after the break.

I hope you all have a healthy and restful half term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021.

Take care and stay safe,

*J McGuinness*

**Judith McGuinness**  
Headteacher

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