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Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a pleasure to have the children return to school this week, following the half term break. We are so immensely proud of their resilience and they have remembered the school routines, so well. They have settled quickly to their learning and they are a credit to you and their teaching staff.

In light of Prime Ministers announcement, last Saturday evening, and further information since, we wanted to reassure you that we will be continuing our vigilance in following the government guidance and our own risk assessments, to limit any potential spread of Covid-19, in our school. To date we have had no positive test outcomes and everyone has acted quickly and sensibly in getting tested, where needed.

As we enter a second national lockdown, the difference this time, is that school will remain open. We want your children to be happy and safe in school, as well as progress them in their learning. We understand that many parents/carers have anxieties about their children being in school but attendance remains statutory. If you think that your child or someone in your family should be officially "shielded", then you must contact your GP and get a written letter stating this, which can be shared with us as the reason for the pupil's absence. We will provide home learning.

We need you to help us in combating the spread of Covid-19, in the second wave, by keeping to the times for arrival and collection of the children, not talking to staff at the fence line but calling/emailing school with any queries and we strongly advise wearing masks.

As a school, we do not have any authority on public highways or to insist that anyone wears a mask, but we do want our children and families to feel safe as they enter and leave school. Please respect others, please leave 2 metres space in between each other. Two metres is quite some distance and we often see people stood right next to each other. Also please prevent dogs being in any queues of people. This will really help us, so that we can focus on keeping the children safe, happy and learning!

Continue to be vigilant in looking out for **COVID-19 Symptoms**. Individuals will need a test if they have any of the following:

- a high temperature, hot to the touch on chest or back - no need to measure temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss, or change in sense of smell or taste

Please also be aware that in children skin rashes and "Covid finger or toe" has been linked to child symptoms, as well as sickness and diarrhoea. Please let us know if your child has these symptoms.

Getting a Test and Self-Isolating - If your child or any member of the household is showing any symptoms call 119 or visit the 119 websites to book to attend a GCC mobile testing site or get a home testing kit. Please self-isolate the household until the test results are negative or for 14 days.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/covid-19-information-and-advice/mobile-testing-unit-locations/>

Mobile testing centres are giving very quick results, this week, but this is dependent on the numbers being tested and availability of slots at the time.

Best wishes,

Miss Kirsti Ashman (Head Teacher)