



Highfields Academy

Together we inspire, always aiming higher

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Friday 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all well and have had a good week. My main reason for writing is to wish you all a very happy half term break and to thank you for all of your support during this half term. In many ways this half term has felt more like how school used to be, with class bubbles being removed, start and finish times reverting back to normal and school trips and swimming lessons starting to take place again.

However, we are very aware (as you will be from the news on the television) that we are by no means out of the pandemic and that cases are rising again. One of our key measures in trying to prevent the spread of Covid-19 is to ensure that classrooms are well ventilated. We will have to continue this over the next few months, and the weather is going to start to get colder. We ask you to make sure that you send your children into school with warm clothes (jumper or fleece top) next half term.

During the winter months we are also going to make a slight change to our rules on PE days. So far this year we have said that pupils in years 2 to 6 can come into school in their PE kits on the days that they have PE. They can continue to do this after half term but should also bring in their uniform so if they get muddy or wet during PE they have clothes to change into after the PE lesson.

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you all of what needs to be done over the holiday period and particularly what to do if your child (or anyone in the household) feels unwell.

- Guidance recommends that all household members of primary school age children (age 12 and above) should continue to test twice per week using Lateral Flow Devices.
- If anyone in the house develops any of the Covid-19 symptoms (new and persistent cough, high temperature, loss of taste/smell) they must arrange to have a PCR test.
- If anyone in the household tests positive for Covid-19 then children should not attend school for a period of 5 days from the result of the PCR test. It would also be sensible to carry out an LFD test before they return to school.

Parents' Evenings

Our Autumn term parents' evenings are going to take place on Tuesday 16th November and Wednesday 17th November. These are going to be done via telephone. Once we return a letter will be coming out with instructions on how to arrange appointments.

Have a lovely break; and thank you once again.

Simon Dyson
Principal