

Ref: OctHalfTerm2020/noc

23rd October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,



As we reach the end of this half term, I wanted to write and thank you for your continued support in the safe return of your child to school.

As you already know, this is proving to be a very different and demanding school year. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and admiration in how brilliantly everyone in our school community is working together, to deal with the ever shifting challenges. As parents, this has been a really tough time for you balancing your own worries with the determination to ensure your children do not miss out on their education because of the pandemic; we really do appreciate all your efforts. As a result of this, Bloxwich Primary's attendance has been exceptionally strong throughout this half term and until yesterday, it was similar to last year. Well done!

Unfortunately, this week, we have had one confirmed case of COVID-19 in one of our classes. Following guidance from Walsall Public Health, parents of pupils in the affected bubble (3DB, 3AC & 4JF) were informed and pupils were sent home to isolate for 14 days, returning no earlier than Wednesday 4th November. Thank you to all the parents/carers that acted so promptly in picking up their children due to this incident.

Putting that aside, I would like to thank you as parents/carers for acting quickly and taking a measured approach to any suspected illnesses within your own family bubbles, always contacting the school promptly when the need arises. Please rest assured that we continue to be fully committed to following all of the local and national Government Public Health guidelines to reduce the risks at school for our return on Monday 2nd November (usual staggered times) to all pupils, except those within the bubble, who must not come in until Wednesday 4th November.

On a personal note, as the new Headteacher I would like to sincerely express how much I have appreciated the warm welcome and support that I have received from parents/carers, staff and pupils over the last eight weeks. Furthermore, as parents/carers you should all be extremely proud of your wonderful children, who are lovely and a real credit to you. As the Headteacher, I truly believe that even with all that we have had to face together in this short period of time, that if we continue working together as a team, we can 'be the best we can be!' Thank you again for making my job of settling in very easy and enjoyable.

Finally, this half term break certainly feels well-deserved for all staff, pupils and parents/carers. I do hope that you and your families are able to relax, recharge and have some fun over the holiday; you all deserve it! With this in mind please can I also urge you all to follow government guidance in minimising the risks to yourselves and your children.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. S. Shepherd
Headteacher