



Rigby Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 2EP

Tel: 01527 875475 Fax: 01527 870211

Headteacher: Mrs T Smith

www.rigbyhallschool.com

Email – office@rigbyhall.worcs.sch.uk

Thursday 8th July 2021

Dear Families,

I hope that you are all well.

I am writing to you as the number of cases within the town and the County are rising.

We currently only have one class and ten members of staff out, who we welcome back tomorrow. I am very thankful that the positive case is now well and was only that person.

Our other issue within the school is contact tracing and self-isolation. Currently we have a significant number of staff who are either self-isolating through contact, or their own children are having to self-isolate and need childcare. Staff have been really careful throughout all of this and I remain beyond grateful to them all for all their care, co-operation and hard work in keeping the school going. However, we are all human. This is going to impact on us one way or another.

I am writing to say that I need you to be aware that at any point I may need to close classes not just because of cases, but if staffing becomes unsafe. We do have split classes in school today as this is a safe option to manage staff absence, and we will always do our very best to ensure your child comes into school, is safe and is not put at any risk, but please bear with me if I have to close a class. This will not be an easy decision to make and will be done for health and safety reasons. For example, the collection of Primary children the other Monday was because we had to send the staff home to self-isolate. This was a significant health and safety issue as we then didn't have enough staff to keep children safe and needed to re-staff. But, we did it and we will always try to do this in any situation. I just wanted to offer apologies in advance and make you aware of the situation that we are now finding ourselves in.

We also don't finish our term until Wednesday 21st July, 2 days after restrictions change! I will respectfully ask that you continue with our measures until this point, as this is what we are doing in school too. We are all desperately trying to get you all to the summer and hopefully some kind of a break without you having to be in self-isolation. So please keep testing where this is appropriate, please keep me informed of any suspected cases, please keep vigilant for the symptoms of the new variant; stomach upset, headaches, sore throat, general tiredness and runny nose, as well as the 3 main symptoms of fever, continuous cough and loss of taste and/or smell.



“Valuing every achievement”



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With these symptoms in mind, please also keep your child at home if they display any of these and book a PCR immediately. If you send them in to school with symptoms, not only does this impact on other pupils and staff but I will be sending them home as we just can't risk people's health. Whilst you feel that it might be ok to do this, we have a lot of vulnerable children in the building who may not be able to fight this virus off strongly. So please, help us to help you all too, as you have done throughout, and I am very grateful to you for doing.

Please keep safe, keep well and contact me if you want any help or advice.

Thank you so much for your continued support and understanding, it really means a lot.

Tracey



“Valuing every achievement”