



## Federation of Pinvin C of E First School and St Nicholas C of E Middle School

Main Street, Pinvin, Worcestershire WR10 2ER

**Federation Head teacher: Mrs Sandra Jennings**

*Together, we inspire, discover and achieve*

Dear parents and carers,

I am sorry to have to send yet another letter about COVID-19. The situation is changing literally minute by minute and I now have further advice from the LORT (Local Outbreak Response Team) and the Duty Consultant at Worcestershire Children First.

As you may already know, we have had to **close Reception (Sycamore) class**. This is because all staff members who work in Reception are currently positive for COVID-19. Teaching supply agencies are stretched and we are simply unable to staff the classroom at the moment. Work will be provided for children via Google Classrooms. This closure will be for a week in the first instance. I will continue to review this in the hope that we can re-open the class for the final week of term. However, unless we can find staff from agencies, I have to advise that this is, sadly, unlikely to be the full week.

We have been told by the Duty Consultant to **close wraparound care** until the end of term. I am acutely aware that this is very disruptive for parents. I have looked at alternatives within school and, on the advice of the Duty Consultant, have had to make the decision that we simply cannot staff any alternative, bubble-type wraparound care. I understand that this is very short notice and so wraparound will be open after school today for the last time this term.

We have also been advised to ask parents to bring and collect children from school if at all possible, rather than using school buses. Again, I understand that this is very difficult for families, but can only advise that **children should only use the school bus if there is no alternative**.

**PFS parents**, please continue to collect your children from the sectioned areas of the playground after school. If children at PFS arrive late in the morning, please take them to the PFS door, not the SNMS door. **All parents**, please wear masks/face coverings when dropping off and collecting children from both sites.

In trying to contain the spread, we are asking office staff not walk around and between the two schools. Please ensure that your children **have all the correct equipment** with them, so that office staff do not have to take items from parents and deliver them to children in classes. Please could parents also try to make contact with the office via phone calls and emails rather than in person, wherever possible.

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Unfortunately, we have had to **cancel our plans for Christmas events**. This includes PFS Enterprise stalls, the outdoor nativity, the outdoor carol concert and the Santa Dash. Children are currently eating lunches in classrooms so Christmas Dinner this Friday can go ahead. We had hoped that we had made our plans COVID-proof, but, unfortunately, we have been advised to cancel any gatherings, even if outdoors.

Please can parents of **Year 7 children** ensure that they have a mask with them to wear in communal areas of school and on school transport. Staff will be reminding pupils to wear them in and around school and as they get on buses after school.

Please continue to test children twice weekly using LFTs (available from the school office - please phone and we can send a supply home with your child). If children have been in contact with positive cases (currently in Reception, Y2, Y4, Y6 and Y7), I would advise that they test daily. We are very grateful to all parents who are keeping us up to date with positive tests results (both LFT and PCR). **Please continue to advise us by phone or email**. Emails are picked up overnight and over the weekend, which enables us to keep our records up to date and helps with the decision-making processes.

If your child shows **any symptoms**, please test using a PCR and keep us informed about why they are absent and that they have taken a PCR test. Again, this enables us to keep our records up to date so that we can make decisions moving forward.

Once again, I am very grateful for your support in what is a difficult situation. Your understanding, flexibility and sharing of information with us is very much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Mrs Henrick  
**Acting Headteacher**

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