



Highters Heath Community School

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20/04/2021

Hello everyone.

I hope you have all had a fantastic Easter break, and that your children are ready and excited to be getting back to school.

I just want to inform you of a few of things.

Thankfully, due to your great care and diligence, the local infection rates have dropped dramatically over the past few weeks. In fact, in the last four weeks, the daily positive cases in the Highters Heath area has dropped from nearly 200 per day to less than 20. This doesn't happen by accident. This is due to all of us making sacrifices and doing the right thing. However, this does not mean that the virus has gone away. We all know from past experiences that numbers can rise very quickly, and so we all need to keep doing the things we have been doing, and helping to keep everyone in our community safe. In school we are going to continue with the measures that have been in place since we opened fully again last month, so if you are unable to wear a face covering on the school site, please let us know in advance so that we can make arrangements to have your child/ren collected at the gate. Thank you all once again for your help and support in all that we have been doing to make sure your children are kept as safe as they can possibly be in the current circumstances.

From now (although some catch up sessions will still be required along the way) we are very much getting back to normal, in that the learning that the children will be doing, will be what they are expected to be doing at this point in their year group. We will of course, continue to support any children still feeling the effects of lockdown both academically and emotionally, but the message to children will now be one of 'back to normal'.

- **Parents evening** will take place this term, but until we have the updated government guidance in June, we won't be able to tell you how or when this will happen. We will update you as soon as possible on this.
- **Annual Reports** will be sent out with children on Thursday 1st July. They will be a similar format to last year where the comments are mostly based around attitude, effort and behaviour. There will be an assessment of children's general attainment, but schools are not undertaking any formal assessments again this year.
- Trips and visits are starting to happen again now, so keep an eye open for further announcements.
- School will be **open** as normal on voting day this year.
- Teacher training day will be on Friday May 28th.

As always, the support you give us in school as we work towards what we could describe as something more 'normal' are very much appreciated, and if there is anything you feel we can help you with, please do not hesitate to contact us in the usual ways.

Kindest regards as ever,

Brian Doherty