



Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Headteacher Mrs B Rai

Friday 28th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your support during this continuing pandemic. The safety of our children and the wider community is of paramount importance to us, so it is with this in mind that I would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the need to wear facemasks when on the school site, unless you are exempt.

Many of you may have seen in the Watford Observer that local school, Cherry Tree Primary School, has had to close and resume remote learning for its pupils due to a number of cases of Covid-19 within the school. It appears that there are a few confirmed cases within one class, which have then spread across the school due to the high number of siblings within the school. We at Highwood also have many families with children in different year groups so this is a real concern for us. We really want to be able to go ahead with our summer events like Sports Day and the Summer Fair.

Over the half term break (with a good weather forecast, thank goodness!) it is important to continue to meet outside as much as possible and to reduce the need for indoor contact, where masks should be worn if possible. Whilst we know that many of our children will recommence sleepovers with friends over half term, may we remind you that this level of close contact increases the risk of transmission greatly.

Where pupils test positive for Covid-19 during half-term, having developed symptoms more than two days since being in school, no action is needed. However, where pupils test positive having developed symptoms within 2 days of being in school, please email the school office on covidcase@highwood.herts.sch.uk to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the child may have been infectious whilst in school.

The Mayor of Watford, Peter Taylor, has recently confirmed that there are cases of the Indian variant within the Watford area. Please may we urge you to continue to be vigilant during this time and to follow the guidelines set out by the government to help us continue to maintain the highest level of safety for our school and the wider community.

Finally, following government guidance, we continue to urge all people who are eligible (currently those over 34 but this may reduce in the coming days, anyone with caring responsibility or anyone with a long-term medical condition) to get a Covid-19 vaccination as soon as possible. Vaccination remains our best defence against all forms of Covid.

Thank you for your continued support.

On behalf of the governors and school team with very best wishes for a safe and happy half term,

Mrs Bindu Rai

Headteacher

