

Learning together to be the best we can be

Headteacher - Nichola Irving



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Dear Parents/Carers

After surviving the first half term COVID free and not having to shut any bubbles it appears to now be affecting the school community. So far, we have closed Year 1 and today Year 6. However, in addition to this I have 15 members of staff absent due to isolation, illness or as a result of track and trace. This has huge implications for the running of school and keeping school open. I have discussed this with the Chair of Governors and the local authority, considering options for business continuity planning. In order to keep year groups open for the majority of the time, we will be closing school on Fridays at 12.30pm for the next two weeks.

- **Friday 13th November school shuts at 12.30pm**
- **Friday 20th November school shuts at 12.30pm**

However, I may need to review and extend this dependent on the extent to which staffing levels are affected by COVID. Children who are entitled to free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch to take home. This will also prevent staff teaching / covering in different bubbles across school while infection levels are high and current restrictions are in place. Whilst guidelines allow teachers to do this it also increases the contacts and therefore number of people who have to isolate.

I understand this may cause inconveniences for you but please be assured we have explored all other options.

Work will be set for your child to complete on the Friday afternoons.

I trust you will support school with this, understand this decision has not been taken lightly and hopefully after this period of time we can return to normal.

Finally, I am sure you will join me in wishing everyone a speedy recovery.

Stay Safe.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'N. Irving'.

Nichola Irving
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Janet Dyson'.

Janet Dyson
Chair of Governors

