5th November 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you had a good half term week despite the awful weather. Your children have returned to school really well and it is great to have them back.

I am writing to you today as we enter a second period of national social restrictions in England which will last until December 2nd. Attached is a letter about this to all families from our Trust CEO, Dean Ashton, but I would also like to add some further key messages from school.

We all understand the challenges we face when living with social restrictions and we don’t want the social restriction period to be extended. We want to make sure that at Pilgrim we are all doing our bit to ensure that the current restrictions are effective in reducing the Covid-19 rate of infection at a local and national level. I ask for your support in doing this and so I am asking that:

1. All adults **wear masks/face coverings** at the school gates at the start and end of the day.
2. **The least number of adults possible drop off/collect children** at the gates each day **(1 adult per family if possible, please).**
3. **You drop off/collect as swiftly as possible,** especially if you are having to come onto the school site to do this.
4. **You maintain 2 metre social distancing at all times** when around the school gates and on school site

**Attendance**

A reminder that your child is expected to attend school as normal during this period of social restriction and that schools are not closing as they did in the Spring/Summer lock down. Absences from school that are unexplained during this period will be unauthorised. Please also note that we are required to request evidence of pupils needing to isolate and the results of any Covid tests. Thank you.

**Ventilation and temperature in school**

Following Government and health advice, we are keeping classrooms and corridors well ventilated by keeping windows and doors open. As the weather is now turning colder, the temperature in classrooms is now colder too so please can you provide your child with an extra jumper or hoodie for them to wear over their uniform if they are feeling a bit chilly.

Please also make sure that your child has a warm coat too because we will still be getting them outside for exercise and fresh air! I really don’t mind if the extra layers are not school uniform – I just want the children to be warm enough.

**Half Term Free School Meal payment**

Reminder that any family who is in receipt of Free School Meals is entitled to claim an amount from Plymouth City Council to cover the half term period by following this link:

<http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/holidaymeals>

**The deadline for this is Saturday 7th November**

**Short Reports**

Our Autumn Term pupil reports will be coming home on Friday 13th November (next Friday). These are short reports which summarise key aspects of your child’s learning, their targets and their learning attitudes/behaviour. You will have the opportunity for a short follow up phone consultation if you would like one after reports have gone home. A letter providing more detail about this will follow.

The next official Newsletter will now be sent home (via email) on Friday 20th November. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to get in touch with school if you have any questions, concerns or if you would like to talk to a member of staff, using the [contactus@ppsonline.org](mailto:contactus@ppsonline.org) email in the first instance.

Thanks everyone,



Mrs Lisa Meek

Headteacher