

Churchside Federation

Gooderstone C of E Primary Academy The Street Gooderstone King's Lynn Norfolk PE33 9BP Tel: 01366 328280 Senior Teacher: Miss E. Stanley



Website: <u>www.churchsidefederation.norfolk.sch.uk</u> Executive Headteacher: Mrs Godbold Mundford C of E Primary Academy St Leonard's Street Mundford Thetford Norfolk IP26 5ED Tel: 01842 878278 Head of School: Miss L. Brown

Sunday 31st October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a good half term and are enjoying the last few days of the holiday. We are looking forward to being back in school on <u>Monday 1st November</u> and in light of the current rise in COVID cases, across the county, and following the Norfolk County Council Guidance released on October 21st, to let you know how we are responding at both Gooderstone and Mundford.

Welcome Back.

We are grateful to those parents who have been in touch over the last half term to notify us of their child's positive PCR test result. We wish all those who have had COVID a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing them back in school when they are well. If your child has tested positive over the holidays and you have not notified the school, please do so by emailing us at <u>office@mundford.norfolk.sch.uk</u> or at <u>office@gooderstone.norfolk.sch.uk</u> stating when their symptoms started and the date of the positive PCR test.

This will enable us to have an accurate picture of the current number of cases in the school community before we return on Monday. Although we will not notify you of every case within school, if the number of cases in a year /bubble reaches a specified threshold, NCC and Public Health England will support us to put additional precautionary measures in place, and we will write to the parents in the bubble/year group at this point.

As you are aware, our day-to-day precautions include regular handwashing and extra cleaning and we are also ensuring the classrooms are being kept well ventilated- (please dress children in appropriate layers). Following guidance from NCC, and the rise in cases in the area, we have been informed we are to renew our focus in families testing. You will be aware that secondary aged pupils are provided with lateral flow test kits in order to test themselves twice a week and this is a good early indicator of students who are asymptomatic. Whilst we have not been provided with kits for primary aged pupils, I know many of you are using the tests with your children at home and we encourage this and are very grateful for your support in this way. Should you wish to use these as a family, details of how to order them can be found <u>here</u>.

In school we will ensure staff socially distance from each other within school buildings, including in shared spaces such as staff rooms, where possible. NCC guidance expects that whilst "Teaching will continue face to face as normal. All nonessential events where parents visit schools will be held virtually." Therefore, we will not be able to invite any parents onto our site for larger gatherings such as sharing assemblies and curriculum showcases. All meetings will need to be booked via the office and will be held virtually until guidance offers other solutions- hopefully before Christmas events.

Please can we request that once again you return to wearing masks at pick-up and drop off and continue to support handwashing before and after school. Please do not socialise at these times and remain socially distanced. Wherever possible we ask that only one adult drops off and picks up to minimise gatherings on the playground. We also request that only essential items are brought into school.

We look forward to seeing you and your child/children on Monday.

Warmest wishes, Mrs Godbold.