



COVID-19 Letter to Parents 2

Dear Parent

I am sure you have already heard in today's news the Executive's decision to close all schools from Monday 19th October 2020. In order to combat the rise in transmission of Covid-19 it is confirmed that all schools will extend the half term break by an extra week. School will finish for half term this Friday at 2.00pm and will remain closed to pupils and staff until Monday 2nd November. Please note that the guidance states that this is an extended holiday and there will be no online learning during these two weeks. Please also be aware that if your child is a recipient of Free School Meals then direct payments will be made for week beginning 19th October.

This extended break will also impact the proposed parent teacher meeting phone calls due to take place next week and these will now be rescheduled upon return to school. Furthermore, there will be a change to our existing Term Dates for 2020/2021 however an updated holiday list will be sent home in the coming days. Please note we were due to be off on Monday 2nd November but this is now no longer the case.

We have had a wonderful half term in school and thank God for everyday that each member of our school community has been safe in the current situation. With the rise in confirmed cases we know lots of schools have been impacted and hopefully this two-week break will see a drop in numbers and allow us a safe return to school.

We are exceptionally proud of how our pupils have settled back into school life after the extended school closure and trust this next break will be a short one. Our wonderful pupils have also helped us as staff settle back in and have kept everyone in great spirits and when our pupils are happy, this makes everything worthwhile regardless of the uncertain times.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank you as parents for always being a constant source of encouragement to us as a school. We thank you for your patience and understanding and supporting our restart plans and for your prompt response in connecting to our online learning platforms.

I wish you all a pleasant and restful break and hope that everyone in our school community stays healthy and safe. If there is any change to the situation regarding the opening of school on the 2nd of November information will be sent via Seesaw.

Yours sincerely,

Marina McCusker

Principal