



Alsager Highfields Community Primary School

Mighty oaks from small acorns grow

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you have all managed to spend time with loved ones and have stayed safe and well over the Christmas period.

My wish for the New Year was for an uninterrupted term where we could continue building on the positive changes made so far. Unfortunately, we already know that Covid will once again impact school this term with some staff recently testing positive. With so many schools having staff off due to Covid, finding cover staff is an unenviable task and I ask that you please bear with us during these unprecedented times.

In order to ensure that disruption to learning is as minimal as possible, please can I ask if possible, that you Lateral Flow Test your children prior to their return tomorrow. This is not mandatory, but it would significantly help our attempt to minimise infections in school after a period of social mixing, and therefore allow us to keep the school operating as normally as possible. I am aware that LFT kits are in demand, so if it isn't possible to test your child, then please ensure they are fit and well before returning to school and show none of the symptoms associated with Covid-19. To reiterate the official three symptoms of Covid according to the NHS are a new and continuous cough, a fever and a loss of taste and smell. The early warning symptoms of Omicron according to data from the UK, US and South Africa, are as follows:

- Scratchy throat
- Lower back pain
- Runny nose/congestion
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Sneezing
- Night sweats
- Body aches

If your child has tested positive for Covid-19 over the Christmas period, or there is a positive case within your household, please do let the school know as soon as possible.

The recent guidance sent out to schools by the DfE had minimal changes for primary school settings and whilst it is disappointing that Covid continues to present hurdles and obstacles to be navigated, I am just grateful that schools remain open. Rest assured we will do everything within our power to ensure that the children have the best possible return to school and have the least disruption to their education.

Kind Regards

Rachel Woollam