

24/05/2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

School will close to **all** pupils for the half-term holiday this Friday, 28th May. School will reopen on Monday 7th June for the final half-term of this academic year.

Over the holidays, please can you inform us if your child tests positive for COVID-19. As the office will not be manned, please send the following information to my email address: okerr@oldmoat.manchester.sch.uk

- Name of child:
- Class:
- Date and time symptoms started:
- Date of positive test result:
- Your phone number:

If the child starts with symptoms after Sunday night (30th May), there is no need to inform us until we return to school on Monday 7th June.

The North West and London are currently experiencing a spike in cases of COVID-19 which is being attributed to the new Variant of Concern (VOC) that you may have heard about in the news. Thankfully, the increased number of cases has not, as of yet, translated to a drastic increase in hospital admissions and deaths. **In a call with Public Health last week, it was made abundantly clear to Headteachers that this VOC is a threat to the continuity of education across Greater Manchester. If we see a large increase in cases this will inevitably lead to an increase in school closures.** However, we can all play our part in minimising the impact of this VOC. I therefore appeal to you all to continue to follow our safety measures for the benefit of all children, parents and staff.

- **Wear a face covering on site** – we estimate that only about 30% of parents are complying with this request. **Please, for the safety of children, parents, and our staff, take responsibility for yourself and wear a face covering when on the school site.** This will help to keep us all safe and keep school open to as many children as possible.
- Isolate for the advised 10-day period if you or anyone in your household is symptomatic or tests positive.
- **Stick to one adult dropping off or collecting children.** The more people on site, the higher the risk of transmission of the virus.
- **Leave the site promptly.**

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. J. Ashcroft

In addition to all of the control measures that we have become accustomed to, Greater Manchester Public Health has also now advised that all individuals identified as a contact of a confirmed case must now book a PCR test whether symptomatic or not. If we have any confirmed cases in school, we will therefore be advising you to book your child in for a PCR test. This guidance is supplementary to the national instructions and is an attempt by Greater Manchester Public Health to suppress the growth of the VOC in the area and to avoid a similar situation to that in Bolton and Blackburn with Darwen.

Thank you for your support during this half-term. We really value the positive relationships that exist between school and so many of our families. Remember, if you need any support, we are here to help and will always lend a listening ear.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'O. Kerr', written in a cursive style.

Mr O. Kerr

Headteacher