

9th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Coronavirus update

I am sure parents will join me in thanking Mrs Cartledge, Mrs Pike and all the staff at school for their commitment and hard work in maintaining the continuity of the children's education over this unsettling period. I have remained in daily contact with the school and I have been informed of how calm the school environment has been and how the children and staff have carried on with their daily routines with very little disruption.

Staff absences

I am very pleased to report that the member of staff who was confirmed to have the virus has made a complete recovery and is expected to be back at work soon.

We are approaching the end of the isolation period for staff who were considered to be close contacts to the confirmed case and we have been informed today that there is no need for Public Health England to continue to monitor us for symptoms. I am pleased to report that all of us are currently symptom free and keen to get back to work.

We have some members of staff currently absent from school who are not self-isolating. Parents can be reassured that these absences are due to personal or health matters and are not related to coronavirus.

Handwashing routines

I have received some emails from parents who are concerned about the handwashing routines in school causing painful hands for pupils. I have asked the staff to encourage children to rinse off soap and dry their hands thoroughly to prevent any soreness or redness. If you are very concerned about this please see your child's teacher and discuss it with them.

Thank you once again to everyone who sent in such encouraging and sympathetic emails. It is very reassuring to know that we have the support of so many.

As the number of confirmed cases of coronavirus continues to rise in the South West and nationally, we are all understandably anxious. Please be assured that the children's health, well-being and happiness will always be our main concern. We will continue to follow the advice from the Government, Public Health England and the Local Authority as the situation develops and I will aim to keep you well informed.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Woolley

Headteacher