

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move towards the end of Term 3 I want to say a massive thank you to every single parent and carer. You are either on the front line as a critical worker or you are at home juggling working and home-schooling. Home-schooling is tough, and I am sure there are many occasions when you are thinking 'I just can't do this' and that is okay. Take a moment, take a walk, take a deep breath and know that we fully understand and are there for you if you need to talk. If you are still trying to access home-learning via a mobile phone because you have no other devices available please email the school office as we may be able to support you with a IT equipment.

The Department for Education (DfE) has confirmed that schools will close as usual over February half-term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week. I am sure that staff, children and those delivering home learning will be grateful for the chance to pause. Please note that if you are entitled to free school meals the National Voucher System will run throughout the February half term.

#### Advice from the DfE regarding a positive COVID test in the holidays

Where pupils still attending school test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) during the holidays, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, schools are not required to take any action. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. However, where pupils still attending school test positive having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

Therefore, please email the school office with URGENT POSITIVE RESULT in the subject box if your child does test positive within 48 hours of being in school as it is important that we implement track and trace for potential close contacts. All other emails will be answered at the start of Term 4.

As always, thank you for the positive emails that lift the spirits of staff. This is a team effort by us all and although a challenge, I hope parents and carers will be more confident with the strategies and techniques used in school further strengthening the home-school partnership.

Stay safe,  
Mrs K Sandberg  
Headteacher, Borough Green Primary