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Headteacher: Adrian Mount

5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a good Christmas given the restrictions. Not the best start to the New Year however, there is a silver lining with the vaccine being rolled out.

I am aware that many of you watched the Government briefing last night where the Prime Minister discussed the latest lockdown which included the closure of Primary and Secondary Schools. Obviously, this left many of you concerned as to how this impacts on your child's attendance at the school.

We are in the process of planning for the remainder of this term. Leaders of Learning and members of the Leadership Team are currently contacting parents/carers to discuss options. Whilst we will endeavour to support as many children in school as possible, we also need to ensure we are able to support them safely therefore, we will be prioritising our Key Worker children and those we identify as Vulnerable. Should we be unable to accommodate all children requesting a place, we may need to move to a part time/remote learning model for some.

We appreciate that many of you are concerned about the increase in the spread of the new variant of the virus and have therefore taken the decision to keep your child at home. We are happy to support this however, we do ask that parents encourage their child to engage with remote learning. I appreciate that some pupils do not like to participate in the online sessions, and we do not want remote learning to be the cause of any conflict, however we do ask that parents/carers support their child with their learning where possible. Please remember, learning includes increasing self-help and independence skills so please encourage your child to help you within the home and increase their independence skills.

The Prime Minister stated that anyone identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable, and who was previously instructed to shield, should once again stay at home and only leave for medical appointments and exercise. Jeremy Edwards will be contacting parents/carers of all of these pupils over the next couple of days.











Please be aware that the Risk Assessment and Parent Handbook will continue to be updated in line with the latest guidance in order to promote the safety of our pupils and staff. The most recent copies of these documents are available on the school website.

It remains of utmost importance that anyone who is displaying any one, or more, of the common COVID-19 symptoms below, should not attend school and should book a test as soon as possible:

- High temperature this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
- New, continuous cough this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

I will continue to provide updates via ClassDojo, the school website and letter but please feel free to get in touch by emailing <u>foreland@foreland.kent.sch.uk</u> if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Adrian Mount Headteacher









