Principal Miss. D. Givens B.A.(Hons) Q.T.S



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Dear Parents & Carers,

22nd October 2020

I am writing to you, at the end of the first half term back at Smith's Wood Primary Academy to celebrate what a successful return to school it has been for all our pupils. I am pleased to inform parents and carers that there have been no cases of Covid-19, which have affected any bubble at Smith's Wood Primary School for the whole first half term and I would like to thank all parents, staff and pupils for keeping the school such a safe environment. All year groups have been able to remain open for the first half term and this is a huge achievement in the current climate.

I am continually aware that Birmingham and Solihull continue to tighten their restrictions, as the cases continue to surge in the local authority and that Solihull has been placed in the Tier 2 category. The measures, which we have put in place, will continue into the 2nd half of the Autumn term and as a school, we will constantly monitor and implement any changes required. However, in response to the surge in cases, and the Local Authority response in Solihull, we would remind parents that, on return after half term, it would be prudent to wear masks for drop off and pick up, especially where social distancing of 2m cannot always be maintained.

To ensure our school site and the surrounding area of Smith's Wood remains as safe as possible, I would ask all parents and carers to maintain vigilance over the half term and continue adhering to the guidance issued, both by the school and also the Government; this is particularly relevant within the Solihull area, as it has been placed in Tier 2 'High Alert'. Even though the school will be closed over half term, senior staff will be monitoring the email address over the holiday, so please use the office@smithswoodpri.solihull.sch.uk email address to communicate any issues relating to Covid-19. This includes alerting us if your child, or any household member displays symptoms; informing us if anyone in your household is waiting for a test result; informing us that you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, or if you have been contacted by track and trace. The school will then respond to you, giving clear dates for returning to school, as all of these scenarios require a period of self-isolation. Please make sure you write 'Covid-19' in the subject box for these emails.

If any guidance is issued by Government or the Department for Education, over the half term holiday, which impacts on pupils returning to school, we will share any changes with you via text and email system. If no additional guidance is issued, then school will reopen as planned, for all pupils, on the 2nd November. The same times/ drop off and pick up plans, will continue into the 2nd half of the Autumn term.

The first half term has been an extremely positive one and it has been such a pleasure to see all pupils back in school, working hard and making rapid progress. Staff will continue to work hard in the 2nd half of the Autumn term to ensure that your children are kept safe and that they make accelerated progress in their learning.

We wish you all an enjoyable half term break and we look forward to seeing all pupils returning on the 2^{nd} November.

Yours sincerely,

D.M.Givens

Miss D Givens (Principal)





CHALLENGE, SUPPORT, PROGRESS

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