

Head Teacher: Mrs Ronnie Richardson

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4th January 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you have had a restful break and have managed to spend some time with your families over the Christmas period, we would like to wish you all a happy and healthy new year. With the news of further tier restrictions, it has not been an easy time and we all hope to get back to some sort of normality soon, particularly with the news of two vaccines.

You will have seen in the news that primary schools will return as planned and therefore we will be open to all our pupils from Tuesday 5th January. Please ensure you follow social distancing when bringing your child to school and when collecting. With increasing COVID-19 numbers and also with new strains of the virus we ask that you are vigilant in following our guidance:

- Maintain a 2m distance from others
- All adults to wear a face covering when dropping off and collecting children
- Only one adult to enter the school grounds from each family (to limit numbers)

Please do not arrive before the gates are opened at 8.30am and at 2:50pm to avoid groups gathering. Please continue to follow the staggered drop off and collection times for your child as per the previous Covid Re-integration plan. The school will continue to be well ventilated so please send you child in appropriate warm clothing each day. There is very little change in terms of our school protocols relating to Covid, our most current Covid risk assessment can be found on the school's website.

It has not been the most positive start back for the school. As many of you will be aware we were told over the Christmas break the very sad news that one of our support staff members had passed away. Jane Reeder was a much loved and respected member of the school and our community. She had worked at the school for the past eighteen years in the role of teaching assistant. As many of you will know, Jane was dedicated to ensuring the children were well supported in our school, she was incredibly well organised and as you will remember loved any opportunity to wear a silly costume at one of our many themed days. Jane will greatly missed within the school and we are all deeply shocked of this sad news. We are all thinking of Jane's family and towards the end of the week we will be opening a book of condolences for Jane. Parents will be welcome to contribute to this during the week. The book will be available to sign in the school library, a place Jane often loved to work. Teachers will be sharing memories about Jane with their pupils and they will be remembering her in their own individual way, particularly those classes that worked closely with her. We kindly ask that you respect the families wish for privacy during this difficult time.

Mrs Richardson is currently away from school, over the Christmas period her husband took very ill, not Covid related. Mrs Richardson is spending the majority of her time with her husband in hospital. In the meantime I will be acting in Mrs Richardson's place and should be your first point of contact, we are also being supported during this time by Mr Briggs, Director of Primary for the Trust.

















As always if you have any questions or concerns please speak directly to myself or Mr Briggs.

I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout this pandemic. We have been very lucky with very low numbers of positive cases in the Autumn term. As always I am sure the Greystoke Team will pull together to support one another during this already difficult time. I will continue to communicate with you if there are any changes or updates. I wish you all a very happy and healthy new year. Let's hope 2021 brings us better news.

Yours sincerely

Karin Roberts. Assistant Head Teacher















