



23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

What an incredible start to a 'new normal' for Riverview. The effort and love of education is evident from the children. They are tired which shows that they have been working hard. A big thank you to all the staff. They have adapted to new rules and procedures so well, which has enabled the children to learn the new way of life really quickly.

There are further changes that need to be made as we receive more information from the government and Public Health England. Please make sure that you know these changes, ready for **our return on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**.

### **This week**

- There are a number of local schools that have reported positive Covid cases in Epsom and Ewell. If you have older children in secondary schools, you will know the huge impact that this is having there.
- We have successfully appointed Miss Reynolds who will take over from Miss Atkinson. All being well, Miss Reynolds will join Riverview at the start of December and have over 2 weeks to be with Miss Atkinson and Emeralds as a handover. Miss Atkinson should leave us on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, subject to government guidance.
- We have completed our 'recovery curriculum' this week. This means that all children will be starting the current year's curriculum when we return.
- There has been a report of some issues with parking outside the school. All parents are reminded to be respectful to the neighbours and other parents when dropping off and collecting children from school.

### **During half term**

- Families are expected to follow government guidance on gatherings and social distancing.
- Please ensure that your child continues to read every day.
- To support your child with returning, please ensure that your children continue to practice their times tables on TTR as well as their spellings on Spelling Frame over half term.
- Keep practicing handwashing at home. Anti bac only is not as effective as handwashing

*Riverview exists to love, challenge and inspire children and adults within a Christian community*

## **After half term**

- The routines that we have in place will continue – school PE kits to be worn on PE days with blue tracksuit bottoms if required, book bags for reading books, water bottles washed every evening, one adult per family to be in the playground when dropping off and collecting children.
- A small group of parents are hanging around the gate after drop off/pick up. Could I ask these parents to leave as soon as they have dropped off/collected their children so that we are maintaining our social distancing expectations.
- The 'tiering' system across the country may affect families that live in different boroughs/areas. Please make sure that you know what the regulations are for your area.
- Unless there is a dermatological reason for an alternative hand wash/ cream, children will only be able to use the schools. Unfortunately, when children have brought in their own which are on desks, this has affected the deep clean that is carried out at the end of the day. Some children may have specific tubes of cream (hydrocortisone) which can be stored in their resource pouch.
- We will be continuing to monitor and adapt our handwashing processes. Many of the children are applying the cream on the palms of their hands. We are directing them to use it on the tops of their hands which should help. The cream that we use is Aproderm, which is suitable for eczema, psoriasis and other dry skin conditions.
- We are planning to perform both nativities – EYFS and KS1. I hope that these will be recorded and shared with parents on Google Classroom.
- Photographs need to be ordered by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020.
- The windows and doors must remain open for ventilation until we receive further guidance. Our new building means that we are able to control the heating more. The building is warm and we are using the lower temperatures currently. This means that as it gets colder we are able to increase the school temperature as appropriate.
- It is sad that we are not able to sing and this is still the case when we return. As soon as we can, we will be singing A LOT!

I hope that you are able to spend some quality time together this half term. I have said this every week and truly mean it – thank you for your immense support and respect for the new systems and processes. All parents have made a huge task, at the start of term, achievable.

Keep safe and well.

**Mrs M Atkins**