

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the start of a new half term! I hope that you managed to enjoy some rest and relaxation over the half term holiday.

As you are aware, yesterday we moved into a new national lockdown. You can find all of the "Education and Childcare Settings" guidance by [clicking here](#) or skip straight to the section on schools by [clicking here](#). We have updated our school risk assessment accordingly which you can read here <https://www.st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk/our-school/policies/>

Overall, the main message from the guidance is that the day-to-day running of primary schools does not change. However I would like to mention face coverings.

Face Coverings: As a staff, we have agreed that all staff will wear face coverings in communal areas. Children have adapted to this pretty well. They are also being used more by staff in classrooms, but this is optional.

Although we continue not to expect parents to wear face-coverings at drop-off and pick-up, I wanted to share a quote from Public Health which says, *"I'd also ask you to consider wearing a face covering when dropping off and collecting your children as an additional measure to help reduce the risk of Covid-19 spreading. This doesn't replace social distancing but is an extra recommendation to reduce the potential risk of transmission"*.

A face covering is not a requirement and if you keep at least 2 metres away from other people, this will help to keep you safe. However, we want to make sure that if anyone does want to wear a face-covering that they feel confident to do so (we know that some of you already do).

Please make sure that you leave the gate areas quickly at drop off and pick up to allow more space to enable people to keep 2m apart.

EMS Music Lessons: As per the new guidance, we are able to continue to have external providers in school as long as we follow all of our risk assessments and protocols. Music tuition will therefore continue as planned.

Our main aim is as ever, to keep everyone as safe as possible. If anything in the guidance changes, we will keep you informed.

Parents Consultations: Your child should have brought home a letter on Thursday which gives details of how to book an appointment to "meet" your child's teacher. If you didn't receive it, please email the school office. All meetings this year will be done via zoom. The bookings open at 6am on Monday but you may wish to check that the username and login work before then.

Google Classroom/Tapestry: If your child is well but has to stay at home in isolation, (due to a positive covid test result in the family, or while you wait for a result), please telephone or email the school office to let us know. Work for the children will then be posted onto Google Classroom (Years 1-6) or Tapestry (Reception) each day for them to complete while they are at home. If anyone is struggling to access Google Classroom please let us know urgently.

Have a good weekend - nowhere to go and no one to see, going to take the time to catch up with some TV and perhaps a bike ride or two with the family - whatever your plans are, enjoy and stay safe!

Kind regards
Kate Baptiste
Headteacher

