

'The days that make us happy make us wise'.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. Thank you for your continued support.

## **Covid Testing for Staff**

Schools have received 'Covid19 self-test kits' for staff this week. If the test identifies a staff member with the virus, they will notify school and be required to self-isolate. We have undertaken staff training to begin this scheme with our staff from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January.

This means that there may be times when bubbles have to close at short notice. This may result is some disruption but we will keep you informed.

There are no plans at this time to test children and you should be aware that this is a different system to that in place in secondary schools, where testing takes place on the school site.

## **Free School Meal Vouchers**

When school closed to the majority of pupils in January, Mellors- who provide our catering- had to make numerous changes to their supply chains, so they could provide 'hampers' rather than hot meals in school. This was not without difficulty, but I am pleased to say that we were able to provide a substantial quantity of fresh food to all the families affected. Additionally, we arranged delivery of these packages to help limit disruption to our families. Thanks go to our catering staff and MFC Foundation for their hard work. We can now confirm that the Government have allocated Free School Meals Vouchers, for children who are entitled to an income related meal and are at home: these will be sent to you using the usual email address you have supplied to school for communications.

## **Wellbeing Week**

We are in the process of planning a wellbeing week for children that offers a range of activities to keep everyone engaged in the run up to half term. We will be in touch soon with more details.

Thank you again for keeping your children at home where you can. Staff will continue to work hard to do as much as they can to support learning and well-being over this time. We are looking forward to a time when we can all be back in school safely.

Best Wishes,

Alexa O'Gara